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ARCHIVES OF MARYLAND
XLVII

JOURNAL AND CORRESPONDENCE

OF THE

STATE COUNCIL OF MARYLAND

(LETTERS TO THE GOVERNOR AND COUNCIL)

(7)

1781

PUBLISHED BY AUTHORITY OF THE STATE UNDER THE DIRECTION OF THE
MARYLAND HISTORICAL SOCIETY

J. HALL PLEASANTS
Editor

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ARCHIVES OF MARYLAND.

The following volumes have been published (under the editorship of William Hand Browne volumes I to XVII and XIX to XXXII, Clayton Coleman Hall volumes XXXIII to XXXV, Bernard Christian Steiner volume XVIII and volumes XXXVI to XLV, and J. Hall Pleasants volumes XLVI and XLVII):

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LETTER OF TRANSMITTAL.

BALTIMORE, *December* 1, 1930.

To The Maryland Historical Society.

GENTLEMEN:

This volume of the Archives of Maryland is the forty-seventh of the general series, and the seventh of the subseries relating to the Revolution. The sixth volume of this subseries, which appeared in 1927, dealt with the Journal and Correspondence of the State Council for portions of the years 1780 and 1781. In that volume will be found the Proceedings of the Council and letters emanating from the Council itself for the twelve-month period extending from November 13, 1780, to November 13, 1781, and letters addressed to the Council from July 1st to December 31st, 1780. The present volume is devoted to letters addressed to the Council from January 1st, 1781, to December 31, 1781. The material which goes to make up the present volume is derived in part from the more important letters preserved in the three series of scrap books designated by the color of their bindings, as the Red, Brown and Black Books, and from the mass of loose papers belonging to the State, now on deposit with the Maryland Historical Society. It is to be noted that the correspondence addressed to the Council shows a progressive increase in volume as the Revolution dragged on. The letters themselves deal with a wide variety of subjects, ranging from vital problems involving the conduct of the war to less important personal matters.

Covering as these letters do the critical period of the Revolution, when the troops under La Fayette, and a few months later the army under Washington, were hurrying through Maryland by land and water on their way to Virginia to take part in the operations which were to culminate in the siege of Yorktown and the surrender of Cornwallis, we have brought vividly before us in their reading the efforts of the Maryland authorities to feed and to facilitate the transportation of these armies. Vessels, horses, and food had to be bought or requisitioned on a large scale, and the difficulties which confronted the local commissaries, who had at their disposal only a depreciated currency with which to make their purchases, were almost insurmountable. Perhaps the plight of Colonel Henry Hollingsworth of Cecil County, Commissary for the Eastern Shore, was the most trying, for upon his shoulders fell the task of supplying vessels and food for the numerous American and French troops that embarked

at Elkton on their way down the Chesapeake. To secure the necessary supplies he and other patriotic citizens actually pledged their private fortunes to obtain cattle, flour, and boats.

The arrival of the French squadron under de Grasse in the Chesapeake late in August, and its successful encounter with the British fleet, had not only made safe the transport of Washington's army down the bay by water, but had put an end to the depredations by raiding parties from the British ships upon the settlements and plantations along the water front of the bay and its tributaries, to which many of the letters refer. The letters also tell us of the occasional revival of Tory activities, especially in Worcester and Somerset counties on the Eastern Shore, but these never assumed formidable proportions and were largely confined to the clandestine sale of cattle and supplies to the British ships, while they were in control of the bay. After this volume went to press, and unfortunately too late to include here, there came to light a number of letters and other papers relating to the Tory conspiracy in Western Maryland referred to in Orendorff's letter of June, 1781, printed on page 328. The apprehension and execution of the ringleaders put an end to this abortive movement. Letters from the south during the earlier part of the year tell us of the magnificent service rendered by the Maryland Line at Cowpens, Guilford, Camden, and other battles in the Carolinas.

When the surrender of Cornwallis at Yorktown, on October 17th, 1781, brought active military operations to an end, it became extremely difficult to hold the American army together. The correspondence tells us of the efforts of Washington and Congress to maintain the military organizations until peace was definitely in sight, and of the cooperation which they received from the Maryland authorities. Not only did the number of desertions increase, but it now became more and more difficult to purchase with the rapidly depreciating paper money the food and military supplies which Maryland was called upon to send to the army in Virginia.

One of the difficulties encountered in the editing of this volume has been the selection of the letters which it seems most worth while to print. Those that appear here are really but a small fraction of the letters addressed to the Council during the year 1781 which are still preserved in the State archives. As it is impossible to print all of these, the editor's efforts have been directed to the selection of those that are of some especial interest, from the great mass of manuscript material of the period now on deposit with the Maryland Historical Society. The editor is indebted to Mr. Charles Fickus, Librarian of the Society, for the conscientious care with which he has gone over these old letters

and selected those of the most value to the student of history. These have been copied by Miss Lucy Harwood Harrison, the faithful and accurate copyist, not only for this volume, but for the other forty-six volumes of the Archives of Maryland which have preceded it. The arrangement of the copy and the corrections of the proof have been effected by Mr. Fickus, and the exhaustive index is the joint work of him and Mrs. Fickus. Dr. J. Hall Pleasants has had general editorial supervision over this as he had over the preceding volume of the Archives.

It is hoped that the next volume of the Archives, which is now in print, will appear early in 1931. This will carry down the Journal and Correspondence of the State Council from November 19, 1781, to November 8, 1783. Later in the year another volume, covering the Proceedings of the Provincial Court from 1663 to 1669, should also be ready for publication.

Respectfully submitted,

SAMUEL K. DENNIS,
J. HALL PLEASANTS,
JOHN M. VINCENT,
Committee on Publications.

CORRESPONDENCE

OF THE

COUNCIL OF MARYLAND

LETTERS TO THE GOVERNOR AND COUNCIL

January 1–December 31, 1781

[Governor—Thomas Sim Lee: Councillors—Daniel Carroll, James Brice, Jeremiah Townley Chase, John Hoskins Stone and Samuel Turbutt Wright. On Jan. 25, 1781 Stephen West succeeded Daniel Carroll who was elected a Delegate to the Continental Congress. Thomas Sim Lee was re-elected Governor, November 19, 1781 and the Councillors re-elected, November 21, 1781 with the exception of Stephen West who was succeeded by Benjamin Canada Stoddert.]

[Rich'd Dallam, Annapolis, to Gov Lee] January 1

By my endeavours to comply with your Excellencys Orders (to procure what wheat & flour in my power) I have been able to engage several Crops of Wheat on the Terms of paying the price the persons could get when paid. On promise that If I could not procure the money when wanting that I w^{ld} relinquish my Bargain. Under these circumstances I have yet about three thousand Bush^{ls} of wheat in my Power to obtain, if money can be had to pay for it.

Knowing the State of Your Treasury I have no expectation of geting money sufficient for the above purpose & having no hopes of any longer securing the wheat I have thought it necessary to give Your Excellency this Information and to request your Instructions that I may not hereafter be subject in any manner to answer for giving up these Contracts

The multiplicity of Your Business & the Trouble I have allready given prevented my Application in Person, but as I wait till the morning for Your Excellences Answer Hope I shall be favourd with it

The Cattle I purchased is by Contract to be paid for in a few days, and I myself have no means to comply with the Contracts.

The flour made from the Wheat I received for Taxs & purchased with Certificates & new money I expect is forwarded by this time, except the small parcels of wheat received in Mills at a distance from navigation

I shall on my return apply myself to settling all my Accounts & bring them done in the best order I can as soon as possible

[Joseph Ford, Leonard Town, to Gov. Lee] January 3

Your Excellencies letter of the 27th of last month I Received this morning by Post and have to inform that the Quantity of Pork to be Purchased in St Mary's will be but small Five Thousand weight is as much as I expect to get and I may be disappointed in geting that

January 3 Quantity, what I have purchased has been at Two Hundred Pounds, except Three Hundred at £150 And those who has for Sale talk of Asking a greater Price, there is some Beef to be had on the Hoof, and some in Quarters but the price Generally asked is too high to be given from Twenty five to thirty shilling a pound I think four or five Thousand weight may be laid in at them prices, I have purchased Four Hundred and Sixty Bushels of Corn at Twenty Dollars, no contracts can be made for corn to be delivered a time Hence, Pay and Receive sums to be the desired mode continental money or Tobacco of new Inspection Is wanted in payment, but I expect the tone shortly will be turned to the new Bills, there is not less than Twenty Thousand Bushels of corn to sell In St Mary's County and I think If I had money or Tobacco I could Purchase four or five Thousand Bushels at Twenty Dollars or seventy five pounds of Tobacco p^{r} Barrell But it must be done directly I will endeavor to keep the cooper close at work I have fifty or Sixty Bushels of good allum Salt that I purchased for the Public, Better than Two years ago, If I may make use of that I shall not want any sent. The enemies Barges so closely watches Patuxent and Potomack Rivers that I have thought it too dangerous for to send forward my supplies I am entirely out of money. If I could be supplied with £10,000 continental money & £250 of the new Bills with an order on the Sheriff in case I should want I think the purchases may be carried on Here

P. S. Geo. Leigh will deliver this by him is a good oppertunity to send money

January 3 [Rich'd Dallam, Balt. Town, to Gov. Lee.]

Since I came to this place I find that I may be able to secure about 12 or 1500 Bush^{ls} of Wheat by being supplyed with new money therefore if your Excellency thinks proper I should be glad to receive by the Bearer Mr John Dallam a sum sufficient for that purpose, I can also raise about 10,000£ Continental If Your Excellency w^{ld} give me an Order for Mr Dorsey to deliver me six or Seven Boxes of Sugar to be charged me at the price he sells for All which to be charged me on acc^{t} of my Late purchase for the State. I wait Here for the return of the Bearer

January 5 [Geo. Murdock, to Governor Lee]

Col Crockett has rec^{d} Letters from the Govr of Virg^{a} to Col Wood advising that no supplys of any kind can be expected from that State for the Convention Troops here, they having our Southern Army in great measure to furnish as well as the Hessians now at Charlotte Ville—I am collecting Beef here in small quantitys daily, and hope to prevent any want for Ten days or a Fortnight to come. but I am much distres'd for want of Cont^{l} Money, as the Stupidity of the people with regard to the new cant as yet be Removed. If

there is any Tob° in the Treasury, your Excell^y will be pleased to send me 15 or 20 Hhds by Doc^tr Snabely. I believe I can dispose of it here for Sixty Pounds ꝑ hundred January 5

[Christ^r Lowndes, Bladensburgh, to His Excell^y Thos S. Lee, Esqr] January 5

In the Letter I sent to Mr T. Harwood covering notes for sixteen Hheads Tob° lent to this State by Capt Fenwick, I mention'd that I had strong Expectations of receiving a sum of money, & if ye Tob° was for Sale & within my Limitation, I wou'd become a Purchaser, if I did not meet wth a disappointment in ye money, since that I have reced a Letter from Mr Harwood, in wch he says ye Tob° I forward'd is sold but that other Tob° at this Warehouse & George Town, is for Sale, of this I shall be glad to know ye Quantity at each Place & ye weight of each Hheads likewise ye Price that is expect'd for it, an answer to ye above by return of ye Post, will much oblige.

[Joseph Crockett, Lt. Col. Com. B. G., Frederick Town, to Gov. Lee] January 5 Red Book No. 27 Letter 37

I Have waited with anxiety ten or twelve days on the trustees of the poor House in expectation of renting it for the use of the guards The gentlemen does not seem inclinable to give me a positive answer. The Soldiers are much distressed for room 150 confined to three fire places many lodges out of doors on the account of fire—and numbers have caught bad colds. I hope your Excellency will enter on some method to furnish the Soldiers with Barracks. There is a Captain Bradie of the British I am inform'd is in the Lower part of this State who saith he has permission from the Governor & Council to go any where in the State as also from Col. Wood, I would be glad to be informed if he has received any such indulgence

[The Deposition of Driver Greeves taken by A. C. Hanson, one of the Judges of the General Court] January 5

The said Driver, being sworn on the Holy Evangels deposes and says, that he lives in Calvert County near the month of Patuxent; that, some Time in December last a Vessel commanded by a certain Joseph Shoemaker cast Anchor in the said River, and lay there three or four Days; that, in the mean Time, he went frequently on Board, and found the Crew to consist, with the Captain, of three white men, and one Negro; that the Captain complained of wanting Provision; that the Vessel had no Appearance of being an armed Vessel in the Service of the Enemy, and that he had no Reason to suspect her to be such, from the Conversation of any Person or Board; that, the last Time he was there, a certain David Hunter came on Board; that he did not perceive Hunter had any Business, nor could he collect from the Conversation, that Hunter had any Intimacy with Shoemaker; that he was on Board several Hours with Hunter, and when he went ashore left him there; that, about a Quarter of an

January 5 Hour afterwards Hunter and Shoemaker came to his House, and supped with him; that Hunter appeared drunk, and Shoemaker for the first Time discovered by his Conversation, that he was disaffected to the Government; that Shoemaker went the same Evening with Hunter to Hunter's House and, as this Deponent has been informed, remained there all Night, and went on Board early the next Morning, and was the same Day, taken Prisoner.

And this Deponent further says, that he knows nothing of Hunter's having been with the said Shoemaker before or since the said Time; that he has known Hunter many years; that Hunter is generally reported an honest man, and good Whig and that he believes him to be such. And further this Deponent says not.

And, on the said 5th of January, Captain Thomas Cleland made Oath before the Subscriber, that about the year 1777 he heard Hunter talk of his native Country Great—Britain and, from his Discourse, he seemed inclined in its Favour; that he has heard many People say, they suspected Hunter, whose Occupation is that of a Pilot, of giving Assistance and Intelligence to the Enemy, but never heard any Person charge him with a particular Fact of that Kind; that Hunter's general Reputation, in his own Neighbourhood, is that of an honest man; that he has heard, Hunter's sons are always ready to turn out upon Alarms of the Enemy, and that he has seen them on such Occasions. And further he says not

January 5 [Deposition of Gideon Ireland taken by A. C. Hanson]

On the 5th Day of January 1781 Gideon Ireland sworn on the Holy Evangels, and examined by the Subscriber touching a Charge exhibited against a certain David Hunter of giving Intelligence and Assistance to the Enemy says, that he lives within three or four miles of the Habitation of David Hunter, that in his Neighbourhood Hunter is generally reputed a Tory; but he never heard any particular Charge against him; that, on the contrary, Hunter has, at the Time of Alarms, expressed a Willingness that his Sons should turn out with the Militia, and that they have been with him, the said Gideon Ireland upon Duty, since the present Invasion of the Enemy by Ships of War; and further he says not.

January 5 [Danl Jenifer, Annapolis, to His Ex'cy Thomas Sim Lee, Esq.]

My feelings are so exceedingly hurt by the difficulties I have met with in passing my Accounts, that I am compelled to request the favor of your Ex'cy to appoint a new Comry of purchases for Charles County; who perhaps may give more Satisfaction than it has been in the power of your Ex'cy's most obt Servt

P. S. Your Ex'cy will be so obliging as to order the Bal. of the Cash, Bacon and Wheat into the hands of the new Commissary.

[Benj Nicholson, Balt. Town to Gov. Lee] January 5

I understand by Mr Jenings that the Assembly have allow'd me as Judge of the Court of Admiralty 200 pounds Tis by no means equal to my Trouble & expence. Therefore shall send you my Coms^{n} upon my return Home If y^{r} Exc^{ly} & Council should think me equal to the filling the Vacancy on the Bench in the Genl Court I have no objection to serving as the Trouble is much less than my present Coms^{n}

[William Wright, Queen Anns, to His Excy Thos S. Lee] January 5

May it please your Exc^{y} Your Letter of 22 ult^{o} inclosing an Act to prohibit the Removal of Indian Corn &c came Safe to Hand appointing me with Mr Downs and Mr Ridgeway to assist in carrying said Act into Execution, with Request to be informed frequently of our Proceedings therein.

As to myself, I am very thankful for, and happy in, your Excellencys Confidence of my patriotic Zeal and Activity, and equally solicitous of continuing to deserve it; But must beg Leave to withhold my Assistance from Carrying said Act into Execution, as an Officer; and beg Indulgence while I adjoin some Reasons. If Delaware (from whom we have had I judge one hundred Waggons Salt) be offended, and in Return prohibit the Removal of that Article, we shall be entirely dependant on Baltimore for Salt, and we dare not trust her Monopolizing Principles with any Thing of so much Consequence to us. We have abundant Crops of Corn, and more abundant Wants, without any other Prospect of Relief, than the Sale of our Corn (By the late severe Winter our Wheat perishd and our Stock of Hogs much failed) and to be precluded the only source of Relief is well nigh to Desperation. Corn brings but two shillings clear in Delaware, and the Distressed only sell. Numbers of us have bought Salt and Pork too, in Delaware and have engaged to pay Grain, as must sell Grain to get the money.

If your Excellency by Hearsay, be too well acquainted with my attachment to my Country its Liberties and Independance to suppose I need a Stimulus herein; I am by Experience having bore my Attachment, thro' the Fire; for having been so well paid for Catchpoleing, that I need not the Emoluments of Pimping of which I am intirely ignorant, and am, so determined to remain

[John Smith Brookes to The Honb^{l} The Governor & Council.] January 6

Your favour of the 27th Ulto. is now before me and in persuance of your commands, I have made preparation of the reception of Provisions and flatter myself I shall be able to collect a pretty considerable quantity especially of the Beef kind. I have taken in 800 weight and could have taken in more but for the want of salt. I have

January 6 been under the necessaty of borrowing and must beg you will forward me about 50 bushels with the utmost expedition. I shall either wait on you or send a messenger in few days for a supply of cash without which I cannot act to advantage. I do not apprehend Pork can be had for less than £3 ꝑ C^{t} as it seems to be generally known that the Legislature allows that price in payment of Taxes. Beef from 5 to 6 dollars ꝑ pound. I shall wait with the greatest anxiety for the arrival of the Salt

January 6 [John Smith Brookes to The Honb^{le} The Governor & Council]

I did myself the honour to write you a few lines this Morning at which time I thought it would have been in my power to have waited on you in a day or two, but from the nature of the business you have been pleased to intrust me with, find it very inconvenient at present. I have therefore sent the Bearer Mr Hutchinson purposely with this reurging the necessaty of your furnishing me with about 50 bushels of Salt immediately. I have been under the disagreeable necessaty of turning off some meat this day for the want of Salt, and could scarcely borrow as much in Town, as would secure 800 w^{t} of meat, which I rec^{d} of Mr Nathan Soaper, on his assuring me that you had ordered him to deliver it at this place. I have to request you will furnish me with a sum of money by this oppertunity for the purpose of Conducting the business.

I think it will be necessary to fix a purchaser in the Neighbourhood of Magruders warehouse, as also another at Piscattaway—pray your directions

January 6 Red Book No. 28 Letter 25 [B. Carrole, Surg^{n}, 20th British Reg^{t}, Frederick Town, To The Honble Danl Carrole, Esqr Annapolis.]

My friend Brent leaving this place a day sooner than I expected deprived me the pleasure of writing by him to you, I am happy to tell you that he is in the opinion of every one who knows him a most deserving good young Gent^{n} I must also beg leave to tell you that he was the Only American officer among us that was taken notice off by Ours, which I believe created no little Jealousy, in fact his gen^{l} conduct was such that gave the greatest Satisfaction, yet I must own I am very glad he is out of the Army—the line he was in was no very Virtuous one.

I aplied to the Comm^{g} officers here for leave to go & see my friends but have rec^{d} for answer that it is not in their power without the leave of the Govr & Counc^{ll} as it is a matter imediately under your cognizance as a part of the Coun^{l} I request your interest with the Govr to extend my parole that I am may have the Pleasure of seeing my friends once more before I leave this country—which I hope is not long having every reason to expect an exchange in two or three

months, I request you'l Present my best comp^{ts} to all the Gent^{n} & Ladies in Annapolis you think I have the Pleasure of Knowing. My best respects to y^{r} son D^{l} & Mrs Sim y^{r} family & gen^{l} January 6 Red Book No. 28 Letter 25

[Col. Robt. Harrison, Lt D. Cot^{y} Cambridge to] January 6

The Bearer hereof Capt Whitehead having this day been delivered to me together with Eight Prisoners of War under a guard of Militia by order of Major Follin, and having given his Parole of Honor to Col^{l} Steward as by the underwritten Copy of said Col^{l} Stewards Letter to said Major Follin may more fully appear. I have given the afs^{d} Capt Whitehead liberty to Travel to Annapolis either by Land or Water as he may think most convenient

Copy of Col^{l} [John] Stewards Letter to Major Follin

4th Jany 1781

You are on Receipt of this to detach a guard with Seven Prisoners of War which I have sent you, & give orders to the officer of the guard to convey them to Cambridge and there deliver them to some Field officer with the Letters which I herewith send.

Capt Whitehead has given me his Parole of Honor and as such you are to consider him.

[Luther Martin, Baltimore Town, to Gov. Lee.] January 7 Red Book No. 28 Letter 77

(p Col. John Dorsey)

A small boat belonging to the Enemy was taken a few weeks past and brought to this Town. She was commanded by one Joseph Shoemaker who has a Commission and is connected with the Goodriches. He is now in Goal at this Town and being desirous to be exchanged or paroled has applied to me on the occasion. I do myself therefore the Honour of giving your Excellency the following State of facts which I believe to be just. He is a native of Philadelphia and before the Declaration of Independance and formation of our Government, took an Active part in the present Dispute—at the time or about the time of those Events taking place he was residing, in consequence of some mercantile concerns in which he was engaged, at York Town in Virginia where I remember to have seen him frequently—from that Town he sailed in a Vessel which he fitted out in Virginia, and was taken (it is said) and carried to New York where he took advantage of Howes Proclamation, and accepted a commission to cruise against us—in October last he left New York in a whale boat and came into this Bay where he remained till taken—during that time it appears from his Journal he has committed divers acts of Hostilities and while the Fleet was in James River was active in piloting them and in procuring them Intelligence. I have now only to add that if your Excellency should think he ought to be con-

January 7 Red Book No. 28 Letter 77 sidered merely as a Prisoner of war and not as a rebel subject of some one of the States, I have full Confidence that if he should be indulged with a Parole, he would not violate it

January 7 Red Book No. 28 Letter 78 [Jos Shoemaker, Baltimore goal to His Excellency Thos Lee]

May it please y^r Excellency I addres'd a few lines to you the other day on the Subject of my exchange, expecting they would have been handed you by Capt. Murry; as he neglected calling on Mr Landenberger for the same, I presume they have not reached you.

I have been confin'd here a considerable time, as nothing has appeared to alter my being a prisoner of War, I hope your Excellency will allow an Exchange to take place. Excuse me for saying I found this hope in the knowledge I have, of their being a Number of American Sea Officers in Maryland, who have been Paroled, in order to their sending one of equal rank in their room.

Should your Excellency chuse to wait longer, in order to [see wether] any of the Neighbouring States will chuse to send for me in that case, I hope your Excellency will allow me a parole for this Town & its vicinity, and I will give security if you request it, to appear at your call.

Having an ancient Mother residing in the Town of Reading Penns^a who I have not seen for some years, could I be indulged so far as to be allowed to pay her a Visit—the singular favour shall be remembred wth Gratitude. And if my connections in N. York can be of Service to any American Officers there, rest assured they shall be used for them

January 8 [Thos Beall of Geo. for T. Richardson, George Town, to His Excellency Tho. Sim Lee Esqr.]

Your Favors of the 27th & 30th Decem^r last Directed to T. Richardson Esqr of this place, came to hand the 4 & Inst. I am Sorry to inform you that there is but little Pork or Beef to be bought in this County the Season of the year being far Advanced to make a purchace of these Kind of Provitions, be this as it may shall do every thing that lays in my Power to procure as much of boath as to be had, Agreable to your last orders will send the Beef I may buy on the Hoof to Mr Geo. Murdock of Fre^k Town, for the use of the Convention Troops, perhaps I shall be able to procure 15 or 20 in the Course of this week, & believe from the best information I can get that there will not any more to be had, if that Quantity. I have made the strictest enquiry about Pork, I cannot hear of more than Between 3 or 4 M w^t for Sale—which shall engage the Refusal tell I can possibly hear from you, the holders of Pork in this County, woud sell for 6 of Gold at 90 exchange as there is very little Gold or Silver sold here am at a loss to know what is the exchange, but am informed to day by a Man from Baltimore that Pork is seling there

January 8
Red Book
No. 23
Letter 92

List of British Prisoners of war on board the Sloop Experiment Legh Master Commander Flagg of Truce from New Providence Bahama Islands to Baltimore Town.

No	Prisoners Names	Stations	In what Vessel Captured	When
1	John Chees	Marines	On board a prize to the Restoration	Sept 16th 1780
2	Michael Dowans	Do	Do	Do
3	James Whees	Do	Do	Sept 22d Do
4	Jeffery Leonard	Do	Do	Do
5	John James	Do	Do	Do
6	John Willson	Do	General Robertson boat	Aug. 25, 1780
7	William Willson	Do	Do	Do
8	Peter Hammer	Do	Do	Do
9	John White	Do	Kniphassen Boat	Augt 28th 1780
10	John Lamper	Do	The Cat	Augt 20, 1780

Baltimore Town Oct. 26th 1780. Received of Daniel Hughes Commissary of Prisoners for the State of Maryland the prisoners mentioned in the above List as prisoners of War

L. Master

N. B. At the Request of the Captn of the Restoration, I send John Chees & Michael Dowans in Exchange for Mr Hayman & Mr Kell late Capn of

Danl Hughes, Comsry of prisoners for the State of Maryd

Jany 8th 1781. James Wheeler is exchanged for John Killen taken on board the Buckshire

John Killen, Lieut of Mariens Exge for James Wheeler
Charles Turner, Boatswain
Patrick Hease, Marien
John Pennal, Stewart
James McCafferty, private
Henry Barney, Boy
Littleton Huston, 2nd Mate
George Duck, 2nd Lieut

January 8 at £300. Con^{l} ꝑ C^{t} the truth of this your possibly know whether so or not. I think you had better send Salt as soon as Possible to cure about 5 or 6 M w^{t}.—if you think this small Quantity of Pork worth Attending to. You^{l} please send by first safe hand about four hundred Pounds of the New Emission of money, as the wheat purchace has taken near all that has been sent.

January 9 [Chas. Blake, Corsica, to Governor Lee]

I yesterday rec^{d} y^{r} Excell^{cys} of the 27th Ult^{o} Mr Earle wherein you desire me to purchase all the beef and Salt that is for Sale here, at the same time you limitt me to for Pork that will not command one pound, I am left at large in the price of beef, but as I suppose you would not have me exceed the price you allow for Pork I shall stop till farther directions as that price will not do. In y^{r} letter of the 1st of Decr now before me you desire me to purchase what beef and Pork I can, at the same time recommend me to attend to the publick Interest, which I hope I have done, by never raising the price of any article wanted, but followed the private purchasers when they had fixt the price. For beef I have given £150 p^{r} h^{d} and for Pork 3£ hard at an exchange of 75 and in one instance 85 for 3013. Mr Tilghman offer'd me 6000 at that price which I rejected not supposing he could gett it, however in a few days he sold odd of 2000 for a half Joe p^{r} h^{d} and 300 at 3£ Gold exchange 85, when I gott these a third time he was offr'd 3£ gold for the remaining part but they differ'd about the gutt fatt, I then thought it time to strike for the State and not lose so fine a parcel of that necessary Article, which is the only time I have exceeded the exch^{g} of 75. At the Head of Chester the price is 225 Mr T. Emory offerd me his Pork (at the time I thought it might be had lower) for 225 I would not give it. Mr Hutchings bought it at that price. From these and many other instances which might be given I hope y^{r} Excell^{cy} will be convinced I have always had the Interest of the State in View. The purchase has been chiefly carried on in hard money and you must know the ex^{g} is above 40. I shall be ever happy in doing every thing in my Power to contribute towards forwarding the establishment of our Independence

January 9 [John Smith Brookes to The Honble The Governor & Council.]

I had the honour this Morning to receive your favour by Mr Hutchinson covering me £250 of the new money. I shall pay the strictest attention to your orders respecting Beef being purchased on the Hoof and shall do my utmost to execute the business.

The present is princepally to request you will forward my salt, with the utmost haste as I have received a quantity of pork which I cannot salt up untill I receive it from you.

[Sam. Huntington, President of Congress, Philadelphia, to Gov. Lee.] January 9 Red Book No. 9 Letter 115

You will receive herewith enclosed, Copies of two Acts of Congress of the 5th & 8th Instant

By the former you will be informed that from the unwarrantable & cruel Treatment which our People who are Prisoners with the Enemy have of late received from them, in the opinion of Congress an Exercise of the Law of retaliation has become necessary and it is especially recommended to the Executives of the States respectively to take effectual Measures for carrying into Execution the Acts of Congress of the 13th of January 1780 respecting Prisoners taken by the Citizens Troops or Ships of particular States

By the other Act (of the 8th Instant) it is earnestly recommended to the several States from New Hampshire to North Carolina inclusive to procure for the Use of the Officers in Captivity at New York & on Long Island to be charged to the United States their respective Quotas therein mentioned in Specie or Bills of Exchange on New York.

It is presumed the necessities of those Officers, the Distresses they have already suffered and the more disagreeable Situation they must yet be reduced to for want of the Means of Subsistence unless those supplies are obtained will be sufficient to induce a Compliance with this requisition as speedy as possible.

[Joseph Bruff, Talbot Court house, His Excly Thos Sim Lee.] January 10
(favd pr Capt. Howard)

The Leutnt of Dorchester County, having sent Eight of the Prisoners Taken on Board the Active Priviteer to me with a Request, that I would send them under a proper Guard to Annapolis; I have committed them to the care of Capt. Howard, who happen'd to be at this Place on his return home, and willingly undertook the charge of them. I make no doubt he will deliver them safe. I thought it better, to send them by him than any other way as it appear'd not only safe but Attended with less Expence to the State

[Thomas Johnson, Jr. Secy to the Counl. Annapolis Maryld to Secy of the Board of Admiralty Phila] January 10 Red Book No. 8 Letter 45 (Draft)

Having heretofore received blank Commissions, Bonds and Instructions for Private Armed Vessels, from the Secretary of Congress, on my last Application to him he requested me in future to apply to the Secretary of the Board of Admiralty.

I have therefore to request you will as soon as possible send a supply having Issued all those received of him. Many Inconveniencies have attended the Owners of Vessels for the want of Commissions, to remove which I hope there may be no delay in sending them. All the Bonds in my Possession shall be transmitted to you by the next Post

January 10
Red Book
No. 27
Letter 13

[Pat. Sim Smith, Calvert, to Gov. Lee.]

Since receiving your Instructions to purchase Beeff and Pork in this County I have made inquiry and find a considerable Quantity of both may be had. Pork not to exceed £3. hard money, some I believe for less and Beeff at fifty shillings hard money ꝑ Hundred payable as you direct, but it is absolutely necessary that I should be furnished immediately with cash to pay for it, and Salt to cure it, as those who have for sale have been feeding some time, and am desirous of killing to prevent their destroying their corn in waste.

I have engaged some Pork and Beeff & have more promised, but Can't say what Quantity of salt may be necessary, twenty or thirty Bushells will perhaps be Sufficient for the present. However should there be more sent than I may have Occasion for, shall take particular care of it.

I must begg to be directed at what Exchange to pay the new Bills, and as my success in purchasing depends on having the Cash to lay down Hope I may be supplied by the Bearer hereof or some other safe Conveyance in the course of this week.

January 11

[Chas. Blake, Corsica, to His Excel^{cy} Thos Sim Lee Esqr]

(p^{r} Captn Middleton)

In my letter of the 9th I inform'd you of the price I have given for beef and Pork which I hope will not be thought out of the way as it was what was and is giving here, I know not what are the prizes else where the quantitys are as follows of Pork 6808^{lb} of beef 7796 rec^{d} and engaged perhaps may turn out a little more perhaps a little less. I shall be glad to know what to do with the lard and tallow the provision shall go off very soon; there is still wheat here for Sale the price is now about 27.10.0 some ask 30. I shall be glad to be instructed what to do with the Con^{t} Money in my hands whether to go on in the purchase of beef and Pork or wheat and at what price nothing can be had unless I give as much as others. Mr R^{d} Earle desires ye Excel. to send by Mr Bruff £1250 lent the State, I shall be glad to do that which will contribute most to the publick good.

January 11
Red Book
No. 28
Letter 31

[Saml Duvall, Jno W. Charlton, Raphael Brook, Saml Noland, Philip Mcconey, Edward Hall, Nicholas Dawson, William Jacobs, Richard Sheckles, Thomas Noland, Saml Boone, John Johnson, Joseph Swearingen, Saml Hanson, Richd Richards, Jeremiah Belt 3^{d}, George Schnertzel, William Meng, Peter Grosh, Nathan G. Thomas, Abraham Faw, Jacob Gomber, Saml Price, Frederick County, to Gov. Lee] (p^{r} Mr. Boone)

May it please your Excell^{y} In consequence of an Act of the General Assembly to encourage the raising of a Voluntier Troop of Light Horse in each County we the subscribers have enrolled for the

purpose of forming ourselves into a Troop of Light Dragoons on the Terms prescribed by the Law; and we take the Liberty to recommend Doct^r Philip Thomas to be commissioned as Captain, & John Ross Key Esqr as Lieut to the Troops by your Excellency and the Honorable Council, we shall use every exertion to equip ourselves with all possible expedition and shall acquaint your Excellency & the Honble Council as soon as we have everything ready. January 11 Red Book No. 28 Letter 31

We have deferred recommending a person for Cornet until the number of subscribers is increased.

[Richd Conway, Alexandria, to Gov. Lee and Council] January 12

(p^r Mr. Langdon)

I Received the Eighty Thousand Dollars by Mr Langdon which you have Credit for, and would Acknowledged it By the Post, But Expected Langdon to have gone over Before this. I hope it will be Convenient to send the Ballance by him, which is Realy wanted

[Geo. P. Keeports, Baltimore, to Gov. Lee.] January 12 Red Book No. 30 Letter 126

(Favd By Mr. S. Steward)

I Received your Letter dated yesterday and shall be Attentive to the Contents your Excell^y will Please to send me up some Continental Money as it is Impossible for me to Get Workmen to do anything for New money

[Geo. Murdock, Fred Town, To Governor Lee] January 12

The Twenty Hogsheads of Tobacco by Doct^r Schnebely I have rec^d, which I hope to be in cash for in a few days, at the price I mention'd in my last, However that will be very insufficient for the demands here, as I still can make but little or no use of the new money. I am sorry to inform your Excellency that our Stock of meat is now almost out and that I apprehend but a small quantity more can be collected in this County. I have Rec^d no assistance from the lower Countys except Montgomery Six small Cattle, every exertion in my power shall be made use of, for the Accommodation of the Guard & Prisoners here

[John Peyton, Hooe's Ferry on Potomack to Gov. Lee] January 12

As a friend to the cause of America think it my duty to warn my Countrymen of the danger that may threaten them within my knowledge; Give me leave to inform you Sir, that having the honor to command the Militia of the county of Gloster, on my way in returning from Baltimore, met at this place an Express in persuit of me by which I am inform'd, the traitor Arnold with about 16 or 1800 troops under his command, entered the town of Richmond, on friday last, destroyed all the publick buildings with four Stores, carrying

January 12 off the Records & Publick papers, and by Intelligence from deserters, they intend up this River to Anapolis, and Baltimore, hearing by a Gentleman, of your State, that you have rec^{d} no express from Virg^{a} on this head therefore take the liberty to give you this information, that necessary steps may be taken to prevent your State having the same unhappy fate, am told by the Express that the Gover^{n} & Deligates had like to have fallen into the hands of the enemy, they have allso destroyed the Foundery when this Express came away Genl Nelson with 1500 Militia was endeavouring to cut them off from their ships, God grant he may effect it, have only to beg you will excuse this freedom.

[Indorsed " The within being on Publick business, of consequence to the State of Maryland Mrs. Young is therefore requested to send by Express."]

January 12 [S. West, To]

I think there are State Arms in the hands of Contractors.
Peter Keener of Baltimore
Peter Lettigg I believe of Balt.
James Mey for 50. delivered 15. q^{r} of Hartford
Jacob Reaser of Frederick County
Jacob Schley for 10 Rifles p^{r} Contract. Frederick
Nicholas White of Fred^{k} Town
John Yost Fred^{r} or Montgomery County.

January 13 [John Smith Brookes, U Marlbro, to The Honble The Governor & Council]

I have to acknowledge the Rec^{t} of 50 bush^{ls} of salt sent me by the Waggons. 25 of which agreeable to your orders shall be forwarded to Mr Beall at George Town as soon as a Cart or Waggon can be procured.

I lament the quality of the Salt, apprehending there is danger in curing meat with it, however I shall make use of the greater quantity. I have not been able to receive more than one thousand weight of meat arizing from the want of salt, do not suppose the quantity sent me will be sufficient and therefore by you will forward me another load as soon as possible. I fear it will be difficult to engage Beef on the hoof as the hide & taller seem to be an object of much Consequence to the sellers. I hope to get a good deal to be salted

January 13 [Matt. Ridley, Annapolis, to the Governor and Council]

You having been pleased this day to promise your exdeavours to procure me a Bill of Exchange for £46,281 Continental Currency due Ridley & Pringle when the Exchange of Bills was forty five for one I take the liberty of having this Letter to serve as a

memorandum and to advise you that I shall as you have requested wait three weeks or a month for the performance. Should the Bill exceed rather the exact sum wanting I agree to pay for the surplus on the same terms as you purchase. January 13

[Nathan: B^ll Magruder, Lt. of the Inf. to Gov. Lee.] January 13

I understand their is som small Presents made to the Officers and as Intend to Fort Frederick in a few Days and have not Drew any Money this Nine Mounth I will be glad if you will send it by Mr Peter Young and You will oblige me

[Jos^a Beall, Lieut, P^s G^s Cty. Prince Georges County] January 14

I received yours of the 11th instant Yesterday 2 o'Clock P. M. in consequence of which I have issued orders for the Militia of this county to be called together, and to meet once a weak till farther Orders. And that wee may be the better prepared in case of an Attack, I shall distribute the publick Ammunition in this county among the several field officers of the different Battalions and take their receipts for the same

But what wee are to do for Arms I know not, by the last return I receiv^d a Coppy of which I returned to the Govr & Council there appeared to be but 264 pieces & 11 Bayonets in any tolerable order, And 162 peices wanting repare, and many of them scarce worth repareing, there were 5 companys of the 24 in the county that made no returns, which shews how little Subordination there is among the people, at a time when the greatest ought to be closely Attended to; this I have Every found to be too mutch the case among many of the people in this county, as well in the Civil as Military Departments; But I fear it may be with too mutch truth asserted, that where there is one man who has the real good of his country at heart, there are hundreds who think of nothing more than to Enrich themselves on the ruin of their Country and Destreses of their Neighbours.

I dont know how our Publick Magazines are Stored with arms, But if they can be spared, some ought to be put into the hands of the people, or at least into the hands of the officers, that they may be ready in case of an invasion. And as wee are so destitute of regular forces at present and too mutch reason to belive, that from the depraved natures of many among us, who on various pretences are daily travelling through the United States, intelligence is frequently conveyed to the Enemy; Would it not be proper during the time the Enemy is so nigh, to keep small parties of the Militia Stationed at all ferrys & publick pases, to intercept & take up Every person they find pasing, in order that they may be strictly Examined, and give some very good Acc^t of themselves and busness they are on before they are allowed to proceed. If a scheem of this sort is thought Expedient, it ought to be put in Execution, in as Speedy & Secret a man-

January 14 ner as the nature of the case can possibly admit of, by which means perhaps some very dark Villenys may be brought to light. Any State or cuntry whatever thats threatened with an invasion, cannot take too many precautions for its own Safety.

I must Beg you[l] Excuse my freedom in this, and belive me to be with the sincerest well wishes for the Good of my Country.

January 14 [Chas. Gr. Griffith, Mont[y] County, to His Excellency Thomas Sim Lee.] (P[r] Mr. King)

I have this minute your letter before me, and observe its contents shall take every step in my power to have our Militia in readiness to march at a Minutes warning, should this State be Invaded, I am sorry to Inform your Excellency that we in a manner are destitute of Arms. What few there is shall be Immediately put in a condition for service so far as lays in my power you may rest assured I will attend to the preservation of Military Stores, provisions &c. I should be much pleased to have Arms Ammunition &c to compleat a full Regiment sent us, as should the Enemy attempt George Town, on speculation of Tobacco, or otherwise it will enable us to oppose them with the assistance of the Neighbouring Counties.

January 15 [W[m] Lyles, J[r], Potomack to the Governor & Council]

Agreeable to your directions I had a meeting of the Captains in my Battalion for the purpose of recommending a Proper Person for a Major to the said Battalion, and they Unanimously recommended Cap[t] Jn[o] H. Beanes, if you approve of him, you'l be pleas'd to forward his Commission by the earliest opportunity.

January 15 [Jas Calhoun, Baltimore, to Gov. Lee]

Inclosed is the Report of a Gentleman lately from Charlestown who come to Town last night which I do myself the Honour to transmit to your Excellency.

Capt Babcock commander of the Privateer ship Gen Mifflin belonging to Boston came to Town last night and reports that he was taken off Charles Town by the Hyena Frigate about the first Dec[r] and that he left that place the 8th Charles Town was Garrisoned by about 700 Hessians 384 Men had arrived from N York a few days before and were immediately sent forward to Cornwallis—a number of the Principal Inhabitants had been sent to Augustine which so exasperated the others that five hundred of the most Active Men had deserted the Town and joined Gen[l] Sumpter determined neither to give nor ask quarter Lesly was not in either of the Carolinas—a Major Wates who is aid to one of the Southern Generals told Cap[t] Babcock at Wilmington that the Enemy had evacuated Camden and that our Army had possession of the Country 20 Miles south of

that place—the enemy had also left George Town. Capt. Babcock came through Richmond on Monday last Arnold had burnt about 6 Houses all the Public Stores that were left behind destroyed what Rum Sugar & Salt they could find but he does not learn that they got either Artillery Arms or the records as was reported while at Col° Gerrats 12 Miles on this side Fred^k^burgh thursday last an Express arrived from Genl Weeden informing that the Enemy had encamp'd about 10 Miles below Petersborough on James River where their shipping lay. January 15

[Will: McBryde, [Somerset] County, to His Excellency Thos S. Lee, Esq.] (by Mr Wailes) January 15

I Rec^d^ yours Dated [2nd] Dec. '80 & shall do as Directed, when Called on. Likewise yours Dated 27th Ditto, in answer to which, am sorry my letter had not Reached you, I sent by Mr Gilbert Midleton, before you wrote me, as you may Rely on it. I Cannot Purchase any Provision at all, without having many of the Old Emission, People hear will not Have the new on any Terms, Am Liksewise Sorry for want of that alone, I have not got nor will not get, ½ the Quantity I should infallibly have got; & what Little I have got, was by paying the People in Part, with my own money, & some I Borrowed of Mr Wm Horsey, for that Purpose, The Quantity I have Recev^d^ of Pork & Beef, about 1000 but my further Purchase, will entirely Depend on your Sending the Old money, for without that, I shall not Receive one more Pownd, my Prices have been for Beef 30 / p^r^ lb Pork 40 / p^r^ lb. which is Considerably Lower than you allow me, I have sent the Bearer Mr Levin Wails, for some Cash, I hope you will send me as much of the Old money, as you Possibly Can, at any Rate as much as will Pay of my Present Purchase, & should you not be willing I should Purchase any more for the Old money, Please inform me, & will Immediately Stop, However had I not Engaged it; for the Above, I would not have got one Pownd, the People are all to meet me next Saturday, in order to Receive their money, [by Appointment] I hope therefore you will not let me be worse than my word, by Disapointing them, as it will be Hurtfull to my Character, you Desire I should mention what Quantity I think I Can get, it is a bad year hear for Pork, tho' I have Bo^t^ here one year when employed by Congress, all in Green Pork 43,783^m^ & Beef 2,580^m^ besides a large Quantity of Barrelled Pork, However as I mentioned before, I dont expect another Pownd without old money,

[Th: Jefferson, Richmond, to Governor Lee] January 15

I received some time ago from Major Forsythe and afterwards from the board of war a requisition to furnish one half the supplies of provision for the convention troops removed into your

January 15 State. I should sooner have done myself the honor of writing to your Excellency on this Subject but that I hoped to have had it laid before you more fully than could be done in writing by a Gentleman who was to have passed on other public business by the way of Annapolis the late events in this State having retarded his setting out I think it my duty no longer to postpone explanation on this head. Your Excellency cannot be unapprised of the powerful armies of our enemies at this time in this & the Southern States, and that their future plan is to push their Successes in the same quarter by still larger reinforcements. The forces to be opposed to these must be proportionably great, & these forces must be fed. By whom are they to be fed? Georgia & South Carolina are annihiliated, at least as to us, by the requisition to us to send provisions into your State it is to be supposed that none are to come to the Southern army from any State north of this; for it would seem inconsistent that while we should be sending north your State & others beyond you should be sending your Provisions South upon North Carolina then already exhausted by the ravages of two armies & on this State are to depend for subsistence those bodies of men who are to oppose the greater part of the enemy's force in the United States, the subsistence of the German & of half the British Conventioners To take a view of this matter on the Continental requisitions of November 4. 1780 for specific quotas of provision it is observable that N. Carolina & Virginia are to furnish 10.471.740 lbs of animal food & 13529 barrels of flour while the States north of these will yield 25293310 lbs of animal food & 106.471 barrels of flour. If the greater part of the British armies be employed in the South it is to be supposed the greater part of the American force will be sent there to oppose them but should this be the case, while the distribution of the provisions is so very unequal would it be proper to render it still more so by withdrawing a part of our contributions to the support of posts northward of us? it would certainly be a great convenience to us to deliver a portion of our Specifics at Frederictown rather than in Carolina but I leave it to your Excellency to judge whether this would be consistent with the general good or safety, instead of sending aids of any kind to the northward it seems but too certain that unless very substantial & timely assistance is receiv'd from thence our enemies are yet far short of the ultimate term of their successes. I beg leave therefore to refer to your Excellency whether the specifics of your State as far as shall be necessary had not better be applied to the support of the posts within it, for which your quota is much more than sufficient, or were it otherwise, whether those of the States north of you had not better be called on than to detract any thing from the resources of the Southern opposition already much too small for the encounter to which it is left. I am far from wishing to count or measure our contributions by the requisitions of Congress were they ever so much beyond these I should readily strain them in aid of any one of our

sister States, but while they are so far short of those calls to which they must be pointed in the first instance, it would be great misapplication to divert them to any other purpose and I am persuaded your Excellency will think me perfectly within the line of duty in having asked from the Board of war a revisal of this requisition. January 15

[Dan'l Jenifer, Portobacco, to Gov. Lee.]

January 15
Red Book
No. 22
Letter 22

I shall be glad that your Excellency will immediately send forward to this place 30 or 40 bushels of Allum Salt, as I have a prospect of 10,000# of pork and the like quantity of beef provided the salt arrives by the last of this week or the beginning of next your Ex^cy will therefore be so obliging as to inform me what time it may be expected. The price I have promised for the pork is £240 ℔ C^t and for Beef 4 dollars ℔ lb. the price for the beef they seem perfectly satisfied with. But some ask 300 for their pork. They are in these scarce times very fickle and must be coaxed as well as paid. The wheat I am about sending to George Town, and by your Ex^cy to signify to whom it is there to be delivered. Shou'd I receive the quantity of pork and Beef which I have a right to expect I shall want more Cash, having paid (when last at Anna^s) unto the treasury the Balance of the money reed upon Loan

P. S. I shall be glad to have a Box of the State Sugar if to be spared.

[Pat Sim Smith, Calvert, to Gov. Lee.]

January 15
Red Book
No. 27
Letter 14

I have received your Instructions to continue the purchase of wheat together with an order on the collector for 6000£ to enable me but fear tis not now to be got on the Terms I have purchased. The depreciation of the old money I'm informed has raised the price to thirty pounds ℔ bushell, and as I have been limitted heretofore must begg to be informed if I am to go higher.

I wrote last week requesting to be supplied with Cash to purchase pork & Beef and for Salt to cure it—if the money is not sent before this comes to hand, Mr Thomas Gray the Sheriff of our County who comes to Annapolis to settle with the Treasurer will take Charge of it for me.

Mr Gray informs me he has a part of both the 10 ℔ Cent & 15 ℔ Cent collection still to make, and as some persons who have Pork or Beef to sell may prefer the old money to the new Bills, an order on him to enable me to pay those who may give that preference will be of Service to the purchase. Should it be determined to give me an order a less sum of the new Bills will answer.

I hope I shall be furnished with salt immediately & directions at what exchange to pay the new Bills

January 15 [Jos. Wilkinson, Calvert County, to Gov. Lee] (p^{r} Lt. Skinner)

In consequence of your Order, I have Ordered the Captains of the Militia of this County to call their Comp^{ys} together immediately and to order them to hold themselves in readiness to March when ordered agreeable to your Directions the Publick Arms in this County is in very bad order, but have employed a man to put them in immediate repair. I have likewise ordered the arms of such of the Militia who are not able to have them repaired, to be Repaired at the Publick expence, The Publick Lead is in Barrs, have employed the bearer Lieu^{t} James Skinner, to run it into Balls & make them into Cartridges, and he now waites on your Excellency for Paper & Molds we have no Cartridge Boxes to the Arms. neither is there any scabboards or belts to the Bayonetts, belonging to the Arms, I must beg to be furnished with Boxes & Belts.

January 15 [Hopkins, Wilson and Moore, Baltimore, To Gov. Lee]

The Drau^{t} your Excellency intended to return in has been Presented & paid at sight, therefore we shall be much oblidged to you to send ꝑ Mr John Smith £3000. which was the Amount thereof.

January 15 Red Book No. 28 Letter 9 [James Wood, Richmond, to Gov. Lee.] (Fav^{d} by Capt. Dorsey)

I have been here some Days on the Business of supplies of Beef and Pork for the use of the Post at Frederick Town; but am sorry to inform your Excellency that I find a fixed Determination in the Executive of this State not to Contribute any thing towards the subsistence of the British Troops of Convention in Maryland, in all Probability you will have their reasons in a Letter from Governor Jefferson before this reaches you, the Assembly had Resolved that the German Troops shou'd also be sent to your State, but upon my assuring the Executive that they cou'd not be subsisted and that I was well assured that you would not consent to receive them, they have Directed that they remain for the Present at the Barracks.

I am Desired by Govr Jefferson to inform you that Col^{o} Crockett's Regiment of State Troops now at Frederick Town are Ordered to Fort Pitt, and that their march will in all Probability be in two or three weeks I must therefore beg you will be Pleased to Direct that one Hundred and fifty men with their proper Officers be in readiness to relieve Col^{o} Crockett if militia are Ordered on this Service it wou'd give me Great Pleasure cou'd Col^{o} Baker Johnson have the Command of them.

January 16 [Richd. Dallam, Harford County to Governor Lee]

Your Excellencies Letter of 11th Instant came this Evening to hand I shall immediately give orders for the Militia of this County to hold themselves in readiness to march on the Shortest Notice. The

Present Militia Law is so defective that nothing Effectual can be done as the Orders of the Officers are Little Regarded by the men. I hope the Present Assembly has or will make an amendment to that Law. And I shall be Obliged if your Excellency will order me a Copy or Extract as soon as possible January 16

[Ja^s Murray to His Excel^y Govr Lee] January 16

I have examined the State of the wounded Soldiers who were comitted to my Care and have the Pleasure of informing y^r Excel^y that only two of the brave Fellows appear to be in any considerable Degree of Danger They are conveniently provided with every necessary excepting Beds, which I yesterday took the Liberty of desiring the Quarter Master to procure & I am informed they will be ready to morrow.

I have to request of y^r Excel^y that you will give me Leave to order a few shirts for some of the wounded who are greatly in want of fresh Linnen & four yards of Flannel for their wounded Limbs

[M. Gist, Annapolis, to the Gov. and Council] January 16 Brown Book No. 3 Letter 27

Enclos'd you have a State of my account from the Auditor Generals Books, Balance due the State £9629..10..8 of which sum £349..10..— stands charg'd against me, for monies deliver'd my Officers; this sum was exhibited in my account ag^t the United States; as also sundry other charges for state Bounties of 40 Dollars to each Recruit &c &c. amounting in the whole to the best of my recollection to £427..17..0. which sum was rejected in settlement of my account with the United States, and consequently become a regular charge to the Debit of the State of Maryland.

On the reception of a Letter from the President of the Council last winter, informing, that he had forwarded £10000 to be delivered to me for the recruiting Service; I gave Mr Randall an order to receive that sum of Mr Forbes (in whose hands the money was lodgd) with directions to lay it out in stores for the Troops, & advanced my own money to Colo^l Williams, L^ts Col^o Ford, Howard, and (I believe) Major Hardman for the Recruiting Service, which together with the Bounty paid a Recruit, enlisted myself reduced the Balance due the State to £7050.7.6 probably there may have been some other trifling charge, but as all my Books & Papers except the List of Balances now before you, have fallen into the hands of the Enemy it is impossible for me to ascertain them more particularly.

I have therefore to request The Governor & Council will please to direct the Auditor General to settle this Account, on my qualifications that the above £7050..7..6 was the Just and true Balance due the State by my Books, from which that & other Balances were taken the 22^d July last.

January 16
Brown Book
No. 3
Letter 28

Colo Gist to State of Maryland Dr

1777 Septr 26.	To Cash paid Lt Allison on Act of the Regt		£12.. 0.. 0
	To Do paid Capt. J. H. Lowe	Do	60.. 0.. 0
Nov. 21	To Do paid Thos. Gordon	Do	22..10.. 0
Dec. 12.	To Do paid Do	Do	75.. 0.. 0
1778			
Jany 13	To Do Do Do	Do	112..10.. 0
			282.. 0.. 0
	To Cash paid you by Mr Paca	Do	67..10.. 0
			349..10.. 0
	Balance due State of Maryland on Settlement with the Auditor in Annapolis of which the above £349.10 is part		£379..10.. 8
	1780 To Cash from The Treasurer sent by Mr Keeports		10000..—..—
			10379..10.. 8
	By Otho H. Williams for [illegible]		750..—..—
			£9.629..10.. 8

Thus stands Genl Gists acct on the Auditor Genls Books Jany 16. 1781

U. Forrest

January 16
Red Book
No. 28
Letter 66

[Robert Goldsborough and Gustavus Scott, Cambridge, to Gov. Lee.]

In the present alarming Situation of our affairs we shou'd be wanting in attention to the Inhabitants of this Town & County if we did not apply in the most earnest manner to your Excellency to supply us with the means of defending ourselves from an Enemy so lately & so frequently almost at our Doors: a particular Part of the State when invaded has a Right to expect assistance from the more powerfull parts of it. Local circumstances render it Difficult for the Inhabitants of this Shore exposed as they are to the utmost Calamaties of War & Piracies to expect assistance from our more powerfull neighbours of the western shore: the greater then unquestionably is the need that we shou'd have the means of Defence in our own hands. We can not but hope, it is a fact, not within your Excellency's Knowledge that out of 1700 effective men in this County, not more than 150 of the number can be armed, not a single field peice, nor

Ammunition sufficient for our number of Arms. This State has no County in it which has manifested a more uniform & earnest Zeal in the present just & necessary opposition than Dorset, but Invasion without the power of Resistance, however strong the Inclination will and really has sap'd the Whigism of our common People: few even of the Vulgar are so ignorant as not to know that allegiance & Protection are reciprocal they have frequently in the Course of the summer been at the mercy of a cruel Enemy without any other weapons to defend themselves but those which nature gave them. When the Enemy landed at Vienna (a town not 20 miles distant from this place) with two Barges & 30 men there were not a dozen effective Arms in the Town. January 16 Red Book No. 28 Letter 66

The Lieutenant of this County will inform your Excellency of the number of Arms & quantity of Ammunition necessary for his militia we flatter ourselves your Excellency will use every means in your Power to supply our Militia with 500 effective Musketts 2 field Peices & Powder and Ball sufficient for that number of Arms. And also that the Commissary of Purchases may be supplied with a sufficient sum of money to purchase Provisions for the use of the militia in Case they shou'd be ordered into actual service: as Provisions of no kind can be bought here on the Credit of the State & the Commissary has not one Shilling of public money in his Hands

[Henry Hooper, Dorchester County, to His Excellency, the Governor in Council.] January 16

I had the Honour of receiving your Excellency's Commands of the 11th Instant by Express. The necessary Orders shall be given to the militia of this County to hold themselves in readiness to march at a Minutes warning to such place as they may be directed, and shall endeavour to have every necessary prepared for that purpose as soon as possible. I must beg leave to inform your Honourable Board that we are at this Time in a most defenceless State with respect to Fire Arms the whole Amount of which both public and private doth not exceed two hundred effective ones, which bears a very small proportion to the Militia of this County amounting nearly to seventeen Hundred Men. Permit me to entreat your Excellency to give your Orders for sending over to Cambridge as soon as conveniently can be done Five Hundred Stand of Arms with Cartridge Boxes, Two Hundred Weight of Gun Powder, five Hundred Weight of Ball and Buck Shot one Thousand Gun Flints, some Cartridge Paper, and two small Field peices with Ball, Grape Shot &c.

As I would willingly provide some Beef and Pork for the Militia in Case of their being ordered upon Duty and there being none in the Hands of the County Commissary and probably he may have no money to purchase it with I should be glad your Excellency would be pleased to give some Order about procuring a Supply.

January 16 [Fran's Ware, Port Tobacco, to Gov. Lee.]

May it please your Excellency Yours of the 11th Inst Came to hand Late yesterday Evening, in Conciquence of Which I have Given Orders to the field Officers to notify the same to the officers of their Respective batalions, With Strict orders to the Militia to hold themselves in Readiness to march on the Shortest notice—at the same time I think it my duty to inform you that we are Lacking both armes and ammunition as you may Discover by adverting to my Last Return of the State of Public Stores &c. Which I Expect you Received by the Hand of Daniel Jenifer Esqr a few months ago—upon the Whole I think We have not more than 150 Stand of armes both public and private Within the County fit for Service.

Therefore Wish you Could furnish us in such manner as to Enable us to oppose the Enemy With Spirit at Least beg We may be supplied with some powder that is Good

January 17 [Daniel Carroll, Annapolis, to Gov. Lee]

The Honble Genl Assembly done me the honor to elect me a Delegate to Congress, which appointment I intend to accept. I hereby resign my seat as a Member of the Honble Council,

I am Sir with every sentiment of respect & esteem Yr Excellency's Mo obt very Hble Servt.

January 17
Red Book
No. 28
Letter 32

[George Dashiell, Somerset County, to Gov. Lee.]

I recd yours of the 11th Inst last evening and in answer Assure your Excellency that I shall use my best Endeavours to have the Arms belonging to this County immediately put in order, relative to the militia of the County I can only say that it is not in my power to compel them to render their services to the State under the present Militia law, If your Excellency think it consistent I should acknowledge it a favour if you would make the Assembly Acquainted with the refractory disposition of the Militia of the County.

January 17 [Josa Beall, Lieut Ps Gs Cty to His Excellency Thomas Simm Lee Esqr]

The inclosed is a letter I receivd from Majr Lyles respecting the appointment of a field officer for that Battalion, by which you will see the Situation we are in with respect to Arms; And without some greater fines inflicted on the people for non Attendance, & a smart peanalty on Sheriffs for not serving Executions when put into their hands, Militia officers will be but mear ciphers indeed.

[Wm Lyles Jr. Green Plains, to Coll. Joshua Beall, Lieut of Prince George's County] January 15

Your favour of the 13th I have duely rec^{d} I shall endeavour without loss of time to have the different companys called together and examine into the State of their Arms &c. and make a return to you immediately I have it done, I believe you are pretty well acquainted with the situation of our Arms &c^{a} in this County. Shamefull to be thought of, I am certain we have not Arms enough in my Battalion to arm one Company, & those not fit to go into the field with. I delive'd your letter to the Governor recommending Capt J. H. Beanes as a proper person to be the Major to the lower Battalion. The Governor inform'd me he cou'd not issue a Commission for him without the Approbation of the Officers belonging to the Battalion, Accordingly I order'd a meeting of the Captains and they Unanimously recommended him as their Major, If you have an Opportunity to Annapolis you'l be pleas'd to mention it to the Governor and request a Majors Commission may Issue immediately for him, as I am much at a loss for an Officer to assist me in doing the Business of the Battalion,

N B.—Inclos'd you will receive Capt Wailes return of fines

W. L.

[Daniel Jenifer, Portobacco, To His Excellency Thomas Sim Lee] January 17 Red Book No. 11 Letter 52

When I had the honor of Addressing your Ex^{cy} on Monday last I informed Your Ex^{cy} of the quantity of Beef and Pork that might be expected from this County, provided Salt came in Time to secure it. Yesterday a considerable quantity was missed for want of Salt. I am not without hopes of securing at the least the quantity ment^{d} that many Insist upon Specie for at least one half and indeed to some I have promised hard money. Therefore if your Ex^{cy} cou'd send two or Three hundred pounds of the solid you may depend upon its being Eked out to the greatest advantage. It seems that the Enemy were defeated in their expectations ags^{t} Petersburg, Genl Smallwood on his way to Maryland put himself (as tis said) at the head a body of Militia Engaged defeated and totally routed the Enemy, those that did not fall fled to their Shipping which immediately moved down James River.

[Ign^{s} Fenwick to Richard Barnes, Esqr] January 17

You will receive herewith by Mr Forrest one George Clarke of St Georges who is the person described by the Govr also one Lee who lives by him & as I have been informd has been on B^{d} with Clarke, my brother Jo, I think would have been able to satisfy the Govr of there going on B^{d} but has been from home & could not be now Summoned Doctor Brihon they have been after at two or three

January 17 different places & could not be found They shall be summoned to attend as soon as possible. Andrew McCurty could not be found tho they were some time after him he is an old worthless fellow scarcely worth notice, but I believe Clark is a hardened daring bold fellow of the worst character & I think a very dangerous one to go at large at this time I could wish he could be detained untill proper evidence could be sent up as I think the matter may be proved upon him & Lee

January 17
Red Book
No. 28
Letter 42

[R'd Hooe, Alexandria, to Gov. Lee.]

Your Excellencys kind offer of assisting this Town with Cannon and Ball is most thankfully received, And in consequence by order of our County Lieut I have dispatched Mr Johnston Smith with Waggons to bring 2 nine Pounders, as many nine Pound Shott, Grape Shot and as much Match Rope as you can spare, also 5 Barrells of Cannon & 2 of Muskett Powder.

A sailor belonging to the Brigantine Maryland a Vessell of ours that saild from this port some time ago, and was taken upon the Coast by the Iris Capt. Dawson and landed at Hampton on the 8th Inst. says, there then lay seven Men of War, 9 transports and several Captur'd Vessels at New Port News that the rest of their Men of War and transports was up James River—that a Ship, a Brig. and a Copper bottom Sloop was Cruizing in the Bay. That they talked of going to Baltimore & Fredericksburgh, but from every thing he could learn their intention was to go against Fredericksburgh, that he thinks they will at least come up Potomack to Water, that they were frequently enquiring how the different towns were fortified and the number of Men &c They had but few negroes and had refused taking many that had come off. They had taken off a great number of cattle & all kinds of Stock.—from the latest accounts General Weeden has a respectable body of Militia and a number of Mounted Volunteers from Augusta and frederick.

January 18

[Eph: Blaine C. G. P. Head Quarters New Windsor to Governor Lee]

I presume your Excellency has received the requisitions of Congress a considerable time ago for the supplies of our army this year—and that means have been adopted by your Legislature to procure them in due time. Congress have pointed out the proportions of delivery, and his Excellency General Washington the places of deposit and the Quantity of Provisions to be stored at each magazine, two thirds of the Quota of Flour and Salt provisions required from your State is to be reserved as a Magazine for the southern army—the fresh beef rum and salt is to be subject to my order—the salt and rum will not be wanting before the Spring and Summer at which time I shall order the disposal of it—the salted beef to be delivered in the following proportions Viz. (and for which I beg your

Excellency's pointed instructions to the State agent for a faithful complyance therewith) one sixth part to be delivered the 20th Feby one the 20th March, one the 26th Apr^l one the first of May, one the first of June, and the residue the fifteenth of July. January 18

I need not mention to your Excellency the great punctuallity there ought to be observed by the States in procuring and delivering the supplies required, and the uneasiness the want of One days provisions ocasions with the soldiery—to prevent which, I beg such powers may be given your agents as will enable them to execute, without which it will be impossible for me to keep up a regular supply for the Army.

The requisitions of Congress were barely calculated to support the troops they have reason to expect in the field next Campaign—and from the present prospects of State supplies I dread the most fatal consequences will ensue, the troops at West point and the other cantoonments of the army in this neighbourhood have been several days upon half allowance of bread, and but a very temperary supply of meat, if our situation is such in the most plentiful season of the year, and when the army is much reduced. I leave you to Judge what it must be next summer with twenty or thirty thousand men in the field operating against the enemy the consequence must undoubtedly be their desolution for want of subsistance, without the States use ten fold exertions in procuring the supplies.

Congress have ordered me to make monthly returns of all state supplies and for that purpose to call upon the executive of each State—have therefore to request your Excellency to give express orders to your State agent to furnish me with an accurate return of all supplies obtained from your State in the year Eighty and to whom delivered—and to make proper monthly returns in future to my Office at Philadelphia, when I settle the accounts of the agents who acted for me in your State the last year, shall furnish you with a return of all provisions purchased on Continental Acc^t let no cause whatever prevent you from furnishing the supplies required by Congress

The new arangement of the Quarter Master and Commissary Generals departments points out the delivery of all State supplies to the deputy Quarter Master or his Store Keeper at the Magazines or place of deposit who is to receive and forward the same.

[Arch'd Chisholm, Annapolis, to Gov. Lee] January 18

This is to inform your Excellency that my Brother Jonathan Waters was taken with Capt Harrison on Board the Sloop Lincoln from West River in the Capacity of a Common Marine and is now prisoner at New York. This is to Beg your Excellency and Honourable Council to Remember Him that if the exchange does not extend to the whole Crew you will be pleased as a Native and Resident in the place to give Him the preference to those that are not.

January 18
Red Book
No. 30
Letter 28

[H. Hollingsworth, Head of Elk, to the Governor & Council.]

And please your Excellency & Honours Inclosed is the receipts for the Letters and Money forwarded by me to the several Gentlemen as ꝑ your request, I'le thank you to have the money charged to Mr Williamses Account, so that it may not come against me at a future day, I thought it advisable to Inclose the receipts that you might be fully Satisfied of the delivery, and of course the necessary measures being adopted in time I have this day stopt one hundred Barrels of Flour which was offered to be pass'd as Bank flour but was not mark'd with (Bank) as it had usually been, (with blacking) have acquainted * Messrs Smith & Mathews, † Broom & Johnson, that if they will make me a Return of all the flour Bought or forwarded on Bank a/c that this shall go on, which they have not yet done, have therefore applyed to a Majistrate and got the flour Stored where it will wait your orders, unless these proposals are comply'd with as Mr Gilpin (the Majistrate) and myself are both of Opinion it ought not to go forward, unless this State can have Credit, not only for this, but all other flour Bought by the Bank Agents, will thank for you for your directions on this matters

* Bank Agents
† Receivers and forwarders of Bank flour.

Red Book
No. 30
Letter 29

Janry 13th 1781 Then recd a Letter from his Excellency the Governor by the hands of Mr Henry Hollingsworth

W. Bordley

dated 11th Janry 1781

Red Book
No. 30
Letter 30

Recd the 14th January 1781. of Colo Henry Hollingsworth the sum of two hundred and fifty pounds of the late Emission it being Money sent by the president & Council together with a Letter dated the 12th Instant

Baruch Williams
Comry Cl Coty.

Red Book
No. 30
Letter 31

Recd the 14th January 1781. of Colo Henry Hollingsworth a letter from the Governor & Council dated the Eleventh Instant

Jno D. Thompson
Lieut Cecil Coty
Baruck Williams

January 18
Red Book
No. 28
Letter 41

[Robt. F. Hooe, Alexandria, to Gov. Lee.]

By every account we have been able to collect, the Enemy about Two thousand five hundred strong, under the Command of General Arnold surprized and enter'd the Town of Richmond on friday 5th Inst The Governor and Council with many others made their escape but several of the Inhabitants in endeavouring to save their effects, were made Prisoners, The small Arms light Cannon Powder and Ball was moved, also the Records, but it is said the latter with the Paper Money in the Treasury and the Plates, they followed into the Country and took. The Arms and Ammunition it is believed is safe,

as I do, Lawson with a strong party of Militia had cover'd them in the Country. They destroyed all the Publick buildings and stores of every kind in the Town (and the Publick works above it) except the Tobacco Houses and Tobacco. All the Private Property except Salt, Wine Rum and Vessells—was left pretty nearly as they found them, and on the day following they Marched out of the Town, but whether to reinforce a party they had before detached to Petersburgh, or to their Shiping was not known. I am afraid they meant to force a Passage to Petersburgh and destroy the stores lying there, which it is said are considerable, from everything I can learn, it is their intention next to destroy the Works at Fredericksburgh, and we are told by some deserters they threaten this town. January 18 Red Book No. 28 Letter 41

If they do attack Fredericksburgh which I fear will be the case—their very best way to get at it will be by coming up this River, and if they come so near I am afraid they will not go off without attempting to destroy us. Under these apprehensions we have determined to put ourselves into the best posture of defence in our power. And if we could be assisted with Arms, there is a prospeect of making a tolerable defence. The Cannon & small Arms of this State are all in use, and Publick Business seems at present so much confused and deranged that it is thought of no use to apply to this Government. If your Excellency could assist this Town with a few field Pieces, or Cannon of any kind, with some Powder Ball and Cartridge paper, they will be most thankfully received and returned again as soon as possible. I am afraid you have no small Arms to spare, if you have the loan of a few of them might be of great Service. Your Excellency will oblige me very much by giving an Answer to this requisition as soon as possible

[Sam. Huntington, President, Philadelphia, to Gov. Lee.] January 18 Red Book No. 9 Letter 125

Your Excellency will receive enclosed a resolve of Congress of the 17th Instant, requesting the Executive of the State of Maryland to liquidate the Account of Mr Baker Johnston for fifty two Pair of Leather Breeches which he purchased for Lt Colo Lee's Partizan Corps on account of the United States

[Sam. Smith Balt. to His Excelly Thos S. Lee Esqr] January 19 Red Book No. 27 Letter 16

I Beg Leave to recommend to your Excelly the following Gentleman as Officers for the Baltimore Town Battalion of Militia, the Vacancies have happened by Deaths removall & resignations.

In Capt Dickinson's Co; Jacob Brown 1st Lieut; John Hamilton 2d Do; Resd, J. Cannon; William Johnson, Ensign.

Mercantile Co; Richard Ridgely, Capt; Clem, Ensign; Ackermans Compy; Frederick Deems, Capt; George Lux, 1 Lieut; Ackerman, Dead; Wheeler, Dead.

January 19 [Jas Govane to Thom^{s} C. Dye Esqr now at Annapolis.]

With the greatest Impatience I have been waiting since the meeting of y^{r} Hon^{l} House for Orders concerning the State Horses under my care. Being promised by the council to hear from them soon after y^{r} meeting about the Middle of Decem^{r} I was informed Capt. Cockey had orders to send his to Annapolis I immediately sent to Balt^{o} in hopes of Orders for those in my care but could find none. The Credit of the State to y^{r} knowledge (being Exhausted) I could by no means procure Hay for them. I have found them in Corn & Straw since Oct^{o} You will Dr Sir confer an obligation on me by An Answer on the Return of Peter. some of them are much reduced, and think had better be sold at Public Sale as numbers of people are Dayly Applying for them.

I hope ere this the confiscation Bill has passed

January 19 [David Weems, to Charles Wallace, Annapolis]

I understand the State Intends purchasing Vessells for the Defence of the Bay. I have a Brig at Baltimore that will Carry 16 Guns. I will Deliver her in good order and will Sell her Cheaper then they Can purchase or Build. I will Take Tob^{o} in payment and will Indulge them Jointly in the Payment, Shall Take it a great favor if you will mention hér to the Govr & Councell I want to hear from you about my Large Schooner. Am Getting her Ready to Launch as soon as possible

January 20
Red Book
No. 8
Letter 46

[Chas Thomson, Secry, Secretary's Office of Congress, to T. Johnson Esq. Secry of the Council.]

Yesterday a letter under your signature directed to the Sec^{y} of the board of Admiralty was put into my hands requesting a supply of Commissions &c for armed vessels; from which it appears that you have not yet been made acquainted with the alteration which Congress by their act of the 27 July last have been pleased to make as to the mode of issuing such commissions in future

In a letter which I had the honor of writing to his Excellency the Governor of your State on the 28th July last I enclosed the Act of Congress above mentioned together with 15 blank commissions and informed him that it was the intention of Congress that all commissions & instructions in force on the 2nd of May last should be cancelled as soon as possible and the new ones Substituted in place thereof. I have not yet been favored with an answer to my letter and as you seem to be ignorant of its contents take the liberty of enclosing a copy thereof also forty blank commissions &c for armed vessels. You will please to return the bonds when executed when more are wanted for your State they shall on the first notice be forwarded.

[Joseph Wilkinson, Calvert County, to Gov. Lee.] January 20

I Rec^d yours p Lieut. Skinner & by him rec^d the bullet moulds 2 Quires paper, The Bearer Lieu^t Norris now waits on you for what cartridge Boxes you can Spare, & a Ream of Cartride paper if you can Conveanuntly Spare as much.

[Robt. F. Hooe, Alex^a, to Gov. Lee.] (By Mr. Langdon). January 21 Red Book No. 28 Letter 43

Under cover is what I wrote Your Excellency on the 17th Ins^t the Person intended to be sent for the Cannon has delayed going 'till Tomorrow. In consequence of Your Letter of the 17th I dispatched an express to Wm Carr Esqr at Dumfries and another to Col^l Fielding Lewis at Fredericksburgh to engage and keep ready proper persons at each of them places to ride night and day with any intelligence of the Enemy that they might think of Consequence. I also begged of Col^o Lewis to establish another below fredericksburgh at or near to our Post nearest the Enemy, if it had not already been done by Genl Weeden or Nelson. And I doubt not but these Gentlemen will very readily and punctually give every information in their power that may be thought material

[Geo. P. Keeport, Baltimore, to Gov. Lee.] January 21 Red Book No. 30 Letter 33
(Fav^d By Mr. D. Eavans)

May It Please Your Excellency I have Been working Ever since Last Monday Morning at Fort Whetstone Point with Twelve Labourers and one Four Horse Team: We yesterday Put Five pieces Cannon on board Scows and Expect (If the Weather will Permit) to have Ten pieces more on board by to Morrow Evening. There is Several pieces Broke down which will Occasion much Labour to Get off there is Scarce one Wheel that is not a Little Rotton and Many Intirely Useless.

There will Be New Wheels and Axeltrees Wanting for the whole and Many of the Carriages will want Repairing.

I shall Strive to have the Field peices Repaired as Quick as Possible If Your Excellency will please to send me up Continental Money without which it will be Impossible for me to have any thing Done (as the New money is not Taken in Town By any Person for the Necessarys of Life) I have Been Oblidged to Borrow Continental Money to pay the Labourers. Which I have Obligated Myself to Repay on Demand.

There is Numbers of things Wanting to Equip the Field peices which is Impossible for me to get without Continental Money

I have Given Mr David Eavans an Order on your Excellency for £7765..2..6 a Ballance I owed him for Officers Buttons.

If your Excellency will please to send me Money Mr Eavans has Promised to Bring it up

January 19 [Indorsed 22nd Jany. 1781. Order drawn on W. S. Treas^r. for 194.2.6 N. E. intre of the above. T. J.]

[Geo. P. Keeports, Baltimore, to Gov. Lee]

Please to pay Mr David Eavans or order Seven Thousand Seven Hundred and sixty Five pounds Two shillings and Six pence Being the Ballance in full for Officers Buttons. Bought of him By

Your Excellencys Most Obedient Humble Servt

January 22

[Genl Roberdeau's Obligation]

Whereas I have settled an Acco^tt of this date with the Bald Eagle Company, connected also, with an Interest Acco^tt calculated on the several payments and taken assurances from Nathaniel Owings and John Cockey for two fifth parts of the amount, estimated at the value of Gold, or so much of the Emission of forty for one as will purchase gold to the amount.

For the regulation of which I hold myself accountable to them for a discount of such depreciation as shall appear in the several stages of said Acco^tts on the scale of the Calculations Issued by Congress for the payment of public Debts taken in connection with the value of gold at the time payment is made, as I look only for the intrinsic value of a just demand, or so much paper money of the Emission of forty for one warranted by Congress as will purchase gold to the amount.

Baltimore County Jany 22^d 1781

Daniel Roberdeau.

January 23

[Thos Beall of Geo. for T. Richardson, Esqr Geo. Town to His Excellency Thos Sim Lee Esqr.] (fav^d by Mr J. Lingan)

This will be handed you by Mr James Lingan. I am to inform you that the wheat purchaces have taken all the money you have sent T. Richardson Esqr; it daily comes in; you'l please send by Mr Lingan one Thousand pounds of the New State Money, & Charge the same to Thos Richardson; have bought but little Beef & no Pork; the latter have been carried from hence to Baltimore—where they get from 300 to 350£ Con^l ꝑ C^t so I am informed; have sent some Beeves to Fred^k Town, but cannot at present inform you the Quantity, but shall have it in my power in a few days, to Acquaint you

January 23

[Thomas Donnellan, Baltimore, to Gov. Lee.] (By Mr. Poe).

Having so good an opportunity as Mr Poe, I again take the Liberty of requesting that your Excellency will be pleased to Remit me some Money, or if that can't conveniently be had, some Tobacco Notes wch I will endeavour to Convert into Cash about £30000 might suffice for the present.

Tis now some better than Seven Months since your Excellency did me the Honor to appoint me to Transact business here and twou'd afford me great Sattisfaction to know what pay I am to have.

[Robt F. Hooe, Alexandria, to Gov. Lee.] January 23
Red Book
No. 28
Letter 44

The bearer Mr Johnston Smith waits on your Excellency for two Twelve Pound Cannon, Six barrells Cannon Powder and as much Match Rope and Cannon Cartridge Paper as you can spare. if he cannot bring the 12 Pounders we have desired him to take the nines. It is unnecessary for him to bring shot, as we can be furnished with all sizes at fredericksburgh. I have not yet heard from Colo Lewis therefore conclude nothing material has happen'd since I wrote you last.

We shall be glad of some Grape shot if they can be spared

[William Matthews, Baltimore to His Excellency Thomas Sim Lee] January 23

Some time past I had the Honour of informing your Excellency that the Bank in Philada had appointed Smith & Matthews their Agents here to purchase Flour for the Army, We in consequence have purchased large quantities on their Account, and forwarded by much the greater of it at times when I will venture to say it was eminently and critically usefull, There are still several parcels on hand one of which of 100 Bbls is I find stopped at the Head of Elk by certain Commissioners acting under a late law of this State. This Law, as I am just return'd from Philadelpa I have not been able to obtain a sight of but cannot suppose it can possibly mean to prevent supplys going to the Army. I must therefore (if consistent with the Law) Pray your Excellency would please to favour me with such powers as will at least enable me to send in the Flour already bought before the season sets in so as to prevent its reaching the Army

[Hopkins, Wilson & Moore, Baltimore to Gov. Lee.] January 23

Please to pay Mr Joseph Cowman Junr or order Three thousand Pounds & charge the same to Accot of Your mo Humbl Servant.

[Geo. P. Keeport, Baltimore, to Gov. Lee.] (Favd By Mr. D. Poe) January 23
Red Book
No. 30
Letter 32

May It Please Your Excellcy I am Sorry to Inform you that the Storm Last Night Sunk a Scow along side of the Wharf at Fort Whetstone Point in about 10 feet Water on board of Which I had unfortunately one Eighteen and Two Nine pounders the Scow Lays Near the Wharf so that the Raising of it will be Easy and no Great Expence If the Weather shou'd Moderate. The Only Place we have to Take off the Cannon from the Fort is so Very Inconvenient that it is Impossible for us to do anything Without the Wind and Tide Permits.

I Wrote Your Excelly the 21st Inst By Mr Eavans Wherein I have Mentioned my Distress and Imposibility of Having any More work Done without a Supply of Money

January 23
Red Book
No. 30
Letter 32

Your Excellency May Depend on my Utmost Exertion to Expedite the Business Comitted to my Charge and will Please to Excuse my Craving for Money so Often as it is Necessity only that Excites your Excellencys Mo. Obt. Humble Servt.

January 23
Red Book
No. 27
Letter 17

[Thomas Sprigg, Coty Lt. Washington County to Gov. Lee]

Inclos'd you have two Commissions in which there is a Mistake. Jno Sybert is intit'd to the second Lt Commiss^{n} and Henry Gaither only to the Ensigns, which please to have altered and sent up by the Bearer. Also a Second Lieut^{s} Commission for John Kyger in Captn Jno Funks Comp^{y}

January 24

[Rich'd Dallam, Harford County, to Gov. Lee.]
(fav^{d} by Col^{o} Vanhorn)

This will be hand'd your Excellency Col^{o} Gabriel Vanhorn Who has under his charge John Stump and His papers taken agreeable to Your Excellencies Warrant to me, which I did not receive untill 22nd Instant at night Yesterday morning early I set off to Mr Stumps & tooke him in the Evening at His Own House from His behaviour and rediness to deliver up his papers I was induced to believe the Warrant was not ag^{t} him but His Cousin Who sometime agoe was in New York I dispatchd after him a party sh^{ld} have sent both down but he had passed Susquahanah the evening before having just returnd from Balt Town where I fear he might have had some Intimation what was doing its reported he is gone to Philadelphia.

Mr Stump herewith sent has desired me to inform Your Excellency that his Affairs are in such situation having a Number of hands employd it will be ruinous to him to be detaind And as he is Assured nothing will appear against him to give a suspition of his being Guilty of the charges Against him Hopes his Examination will not be delayd longer than possible

I have sent every Book & paper I could find that could any way tend to any discovery & indeed I have sent every Paper & Book Except some Books of an older date then the War At the Request of Mr Stump I looked over the papers & some Letters but did not undertake to separate or examine the Contents One Letter I observed has the Name tourn out but for Your Excellencys information if it contains any or not I will mention that its wrote by John Hammond Crummell of Balt Town, Who I expect is before this apprehend'd as its generally believed has been lately with the Enemy

I have nothing further to inform Your Excellency that can give any light into this Examination I shall keep a Looke out for the other John Stump but do not know, I shall have or can obtain any Legal Power to apprehend him & therefore Could wish I could be Authorised to seize him & send him down. Or others concernd If

Philip Gover Thos Smith & Benjn Fleetwood was Examined by Your Excellency they might discover some thing respecting John Stump loading a Vessel with flour going to New York. January 24

[Rich'd Dallam, Harford County, to Gov. Lee] January 24

I bought of my Brother Josias Dallam about 600 Bush^{ls} of wheat at 7/6 hard money which Price I know he refused & the Cash p^{d} down choosing to give me the prefference the money he wants to comply with a purchase of Land he made for which he has no rest. Each Partie has so frequently applyd to me that I am under the necessity of requesting Your Excellency if Possible to send me this sum as above.

[Rich'd Dallam, Harford County, to Gov. Lee] January 24

I am exceeding unwilling to be troublesome to your Excellency but I am so disagreeably situated that I am obliged to give frequent trouble with Letters. Detatchments of Soldiers and Waggons are often passing through this County and their being no Officers app^{d} either to furnish Rations or forage the Inhabitants suffer much thereby, had the Q M^{r} sufficient supplies of Provisions to Issue the passage of the Ferry is often such that no time can be certainly ascertaind for the Journey to Baltimore the nearest Post for them to get the supplies therefore Very frequently it happens that a supply is absolutely necessary here & if the Inhabitants do not give its taken from them and such Certificates left that they obtain nothing for their Property which causes much murmer hav^{g} myself been long engaged in the Department of Procuring Provision and almost every day apply'd to for the payment of Officers Certificates for Provisions or supplies for Detachment of men &c I indeed am greatly Burthend With them, This County Labouring under these disadvantages I can not help giving the Information & asking Your Excellency to appoint some one to Procure If true The necessary supplies wanting And If such an Officer is to be appointed I will take the Liberty to mention Mr Joseph Stiles at Harford Town as the most proper being conveniently situated & a man who will under strict justice to the Soldier as well as to the Public.

A Detatchment of 32 Waggons with Captn Browns Artilery passed a few days agoe and experienced much the Want of Provision & the Inhabitants have also sufferd thereby I have always made it a point to give every Assistance in my Power either by supplying myself or prevailing on others to do it which has much add^{d} to my Business & renderd it out of my Power to be as attentive as I might to other things. The season will cause a greater convenience of Stores by Land to and from Philadelphia and consequently produce a greater necessity for a Post be establishd in this County Perhaps the Issues may not be thought sufficient to justify the Appointment

January 24 of an Officer with the Establish'd pay I will therefore undertake to engage a person and fix his pay in proportion to his service. The Good of the Publick service the Ease of the Inhabitants of this County and my own Interest has induced me to make this representation tho done in part

January 24 [Joseph Ford, Saint Mary's County, to Gov. Lee]

Your Excellencies letter by Mr Leigh I Received Accompanied with Two Hundred and fifty pounds of the New Bills and should have answered it before this but no oppertunity I am fearfull I shall not make up a number of Steers worth Sending to Frederick having Purchased only four, and but little prospect of geting any more then I shall not send without Orders. New Tobacco of good weight sells here for fifty Pounds with an Allowance of 4 ꝑ Ct for cask I dont Believe any person with us can buy a quantity and pay the money Immediately I shall not make up the quantity of Pork I had an expectation of when I wrote last having lost a Crop of Twelve Hundred weight for want of Continental money I have purchased upwards of fifteen Hundred Bushels of Corn at Twenty dollars & can Purchase a large quantity at that I am told that Mr Jenefer can lay in corn much cheaper in Charles County I have laid out what money I Received by Mr Leigh in Beef, Pork and corn I have paid for and Receiv'd upwards of Two Thousand weight of Pork and have engaged about Fifteen hundred weight more which If I had money to pay for would be all I should have an Occasion for Unless it should be thought advisable to continue the Purchase of corn in that case a Sum Sufficient to pay for Three Thousand Bushels may be sent I am indebted Six Thousand weight of Tobacco and have advanced Seven Thousand Eight Hundred on Account of the Horses I purchased and the corn I fed them with should it be convenient I should be Glad that sum of Tobacco may be sent by this oppertunity, the Tobacco I paid was of good weight and new and this I owe I promised it should be new and of good weight

January 24 Brown Book No. 3 Letter 26 [M. Gist, Baltimore, to Gov. Lee.]

Mr Poe informs me that he has not any money in his hands for the use of the Qr masters department at this post, in consequence of which I have directed him to wait on your Excellency in order to procure a loan of State money to enable him to execute the duties of his Office. The stores ordered for the Southern Army generaly come thro this place, and without money in this department the Transportation must stop here, to the great injury of the public Service. I shall write Mr Yates immediately ꝑ Express to procure an order from the Board of Treasury for Money for this purpose and if the State of your Treasury will admit of a temporary relief to us you can be reimbursed out of this order.

Mr Keeports gives me a disagreeable account of the situation of the Ordnance at the Fort, for the particulars of which I beg leave to refer you to his letter January 24 Brown Book No. 3 Letter 26

[John Smith Brookes to The Honble The Governor & Council] January 25

The Money which you furnish'd me with a few days agoe by Mr Hutchinson being expended in the purchase of provisions, I have to request you will send me a further sum by Mr Lansdale. I have met with much difficulty in my purchase with the late Emission and if convenient to you, I had much rather be supplyed with the old Money. The Exchange is also a matter that I am much a loss in, and should be very glad to receive your instructions on that head—the Mode I have hitherto persued has been to turn the gold into Cont. Currency at 90 Exchange and pay off in State Currency at 40 for one but this mode does not give general satisfaction as they alledge the Exchange to be from 100 to 110, indeed 110 has been offered. I could wish to receive your positive Commands for my Government. Tis impossible to buy Beef upon the Hoof—the Hide and Taller being an object of such Consequence to the sellers—what I have taken in is very good & I have been obliged to allow 6 dollars ꝑ lb con^t paid in state at 40 for 1 which reduces the price to 13½^d I expect to receive from 10 to 15 thousand weight and not more then 5 thousand of Pork the season for Pork was too far Advanced before my orders came to hand. I should be glad to know if I am to receive wheat and upon what terms—a further quantity of Salt will be necessary which I beg may be sent me in the coarse of next week. The money I am in immediate want of

[P. S.] As there is no saying with certainty the q^ty of meat I may receive its imposible to judge how soon I may want the Salt, but in order to be prepared, I beg it may be sent me immediately my return shall be handed you at the close of this month.

[Sam. Smith, Cedar Point, Major Taylors, to Gov. Lee.] January 25 Red Book No. 27 Letter 18

I am to Inform you the Cato & Nautilus are both on Shore between Cedar Point & St Jeroms Creek near the House of Mr Bellwood—where they were driven by the Iris on the 22nd Inst. The Nautilus is high up & will be sav'd near 200 B^bles of her flour is Sav'd already the Cato is farther out. The Enemy after Boarding her, began to plunder & as is suppos'd went into the Magazine which blew up carrying off 10 of theirs & six of our people. It has blown the Cato Stores as far forward as the pumps entirely away—so that the water Ebbs & flows in her, we are endeavoring to save the flour—but without much success the Militia after assisting with that which was most Convenient for which they expect one half, have gone off. I Have now engag'd some few Negroes & will use every Expedient to its preservation. In the mean time it will be absolutely necessary

January 25 Red Book No. 27 Letter 18 to dispatch the five State Boats & some other Craft to Secure what we do save, there can be little Risk as we have our Guns planted properly for defence & nothing dare come near the wrecks, we have already experienced this. The Barges being prevented from burning these Two. Capt Bull for want of Amunition has lost his Brig. She is burnt—however he has sav'd 200 B^{bbs} The avarice avidity & Lazyness of the Inhabitant does not admit of a Comparison for Heavens Sake Dispatch the Vessells, if they come, more than one Half of the flour may be sav'd, for altho the water ebbs & flows into both Vessells, we find the water does not penetrate more than an Inch into the flour. The frigates went down yesterday & are now quite out of Sight. The Bearer I have agreed to pay £150 besides his Expences which your Excell^{y} will please order. Happening to hear of this accident I came fortunately to give my assistance, but without Money I must Beg an immediate Supply, of at least four or five thousand pounds, again let me Intreat that the Vessells be Immediately sent

January 25 [Robert Buchanan, Baltimore, to J. H. Stone recommends "Probity and Industry" of Alexander W. Davy who applies to be made "Vendue Master of this Town"]

January 26 [Robt Armstrong, St. Mary's County, to Gov. Lee]

In consequence of Your Letters of the 18th Instant and Agreeable to your Request and Instructions of Fixing a Chain of Expresses from Point Lookout to Annapolis which has Just come to hand. I will exert myself to employ an Active Person to that purpose on the best Terms I possibly can The enemy now being before Our doors prevents me from setting out Immediately on that Business we all being on the strictest Guard. Their force is two ships one of them supposed to be a small Friggate the other a Sloop of War one Brigg & a schooner They last Monday came up the Bay in chase of the Baltimore fleet forced two Briggs and a schooner on shore a small distance Below the mouth of Patuxent one of the Briggs they Burned the other was by accident as is supposed Blown up and every man except one Lost, the schooner was saved with all her cargo. The same ships are now at Anchor off St Georges Island on the upper side of the mouth of St. Mary's River what their Intentions are we are not able to Judge They yesterday about three O'Clock Landed about forty men at Point Lookout deprived Joseph Milburn a Tenant on the Land of all Bedding cloathing and Provision which he had and in some measure plundered me of a Part of what I had on the Plantation fired several Balls from the schooner through the Houses

The morning of the same day they Landed from the Schooner three men in a Canoe and Deprived Mrs Egerton of some stock and

afterwards was preparing to Land a Considerable force but pre- January 26
vented by the Militia who came in time to her assistance the Militia in this Part of the County are Illy provided for arms and worse for Ammunition being frequently called out and forced to expend with a part of what hath been allowed them so that if the enemy should Land any Considerable Body of men in order to plunder this part of the County will almost ly open to their mercy. Many negroes have gone from this Neighbourhood since the time the enemy Anchored of St Marys.

[Dan'l Hughes, Balt., to Gov. Lee] January 26

I received yours of the 17th Instant with the prisoners and Apply'd to Genl Gist for a Guard of Soldiers to forward them to Phil^{a} he informs me there is none to be had. I apply'd to Genl Buchannan some time ago for a Guard to Fredrick Town for some prisoners, but could not obtain one without a Special Order, which will be necessary in this Instance

I understand by Capt Nicolson that if those prisoners are forwarded to the Commissary of prisoners for the Marine department, that they must be exchanged for those next in rotation, and that the likelyest way to effect the exchange of the persons you mention would be by a flagg to New York or the Enemy now in the Bay, or to put them on board—Capt. Masters Flagg and take his Recp^{t} For want of a proper officer at this place to take notice of the marine prisoners, I have been induced to Act in that place, tho they do not come under my department. Should a person for that purpose be thought necessary at this place I shall have no objections to act provided there is an equivalent allowance

[Parole of Capt. Hann^{l} Lusk] January 26

I do hereby acknowlege myself to be a Prisoner of War on my Parole to His Excellency of Maryland, and that I am hereby engaged until I shall be exchanged or otherwise released therefrom to remain at Bladensburgh in Prince Georges and I shall not in the mean Time do or cause any Thing to be done prejudicial to the Success of the Armies or Navies of the United States of America or either of them or have Intercourse or hold Correspondence with their or either of their Enemies and that upon a Summons from His Excellency the Governor of Maryland or other Person having Authority thereto, that I will Surrender myself to him or them at such Time and Place as shall hereafter be required.

Witness my Hand this 26th Day of January 1781

Hann^{l} Lusk

January 1781
Witness
T. Johnson J^{r}

January 27 In Council Annapolis 27 Jany 1781

Maryland

Permission is hereby given to the within named Captain Lusk to go into New York to solicit his Exchange for Aquila Johns late Commander of the Buckskin Merchantman, now Prisoner of War on Parole to Commodore Gayton; In Case the Exchange should not be effected, the said Captain to return when required. He is also permitted to take with him William Willson a Lad of about twelve Years of Age on his procuring a Citizen of this State to be exchanged for said Wilson.

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No. 29
Letter 20

[Sam Smith, Mr. Sewell's to Gov. Lee.]

I did myself the Honor to write your Excell^{y} ꝑ Express the 25th she has not yet return'd I flatter myself Vessells are sent down to secure the States property yet remaining from the Enemy, the waves & the still greater Destroyers, the rapacious Inhabitants. The Schooner's situation & great probability of her preservation Induced me to advise Major Taylor to offer every Eighth Barrell of that which the Militia would save, without this they refus'd working. The Schooners Crew does not hold it to be their Duty to preserve any thing but their Rigging & furniture yesterday she was unloaded & this Day they have begun to pump & Bail & I think will soon Clear her, much of her Cargo is embezzled, the Inhabitants have offer'd such prices to the Sailors as Induc'd them to sell the States property, & they themselves have esteem'd themselves justifiable in robbing the Public.

I follow'd a diff^{t} plan for the Brig I discharg'd her unruly Crew in part & Hir'd Negroes with about 20 people I sav'd in one Day 600 B^{bles} & Have now 700 Bb^{ls} Landed & Hope yet to secure 100 more, if your Vessells do not come down Tomorrow I shall Haul it from the Beach & Store it in the yard of Mr Bellwood where it must stay without Cover until carriagas can be had from here instead. I have been ask'd 4 bbls of flour for a Cart & 4 Oxen, However I do not Submit to any Imposition possible to avoid altho. I assure you there will be many unavoidable, such as the first Night 8 B^{bles} for a Guard. However I shall be more ecconomical in future. I cannot paint to your Excell^{y} the avarice & rapacity of this People. If a General Search Warrant could be procur'd, it would answer the good purpose of saving of much & would deterr them from future attempts. Sir they have Bo^{t} from the sailors when warn'd to the Contrary they at first bro^{t} their canoes along side, as if Intending to land & carried it to their own Homes & Sir if you do not send craft soon I am confident they will rob from Bellwoods yard

January 29

[Thomas Hayward to Gov. Lee]

Inclosed is my Commission as Col^{o} of the princes Ann Battalion in Somerset with a Short Resignation thereon it not being in my

power to Execute that Commission as I could wish the disaffection of the people is not to be bore with and not in my power to Alter. January 29

[Will Deakins, Junr. George Town. to Gov. Lee] January 29

Being Informed that Captain James Lingan has made Application for a Captaincy in the Troop of Horse to be raised for the defence of this State, and knowing him to be a Gentleman of much Merit and a good Officer, take the Liberty to recommend him as such to your Excellency & the Honble Council not doubting you will think he merits the Commission he now Solicits. I am with the Utmost respect

[Bernard O Neille, Geo. Town, To the Hon^able^ Daniel Carroll, Esq. Annapolis.] (Fav^d^ by Capt. Beall) January 30

Cap^n^ James Lingan (for whom I have a particular Friendship) is very desireous of Commanding the Troop of Horse to be rais'd by this State,

His merit & great Suffering while in Captivaty Justly intittle him to the Favour & Confidence of his Country. I therefore hope you'll use your Influence with the Govr & Council in his fav^r^ Your Friendly endeavours on this Occasion will Confer a lasting Obligation.

[Robert Armstrong, St. Mary's County, to Gov. Lee.] January 30

Since writing you the 26th Instant, a ten Gun schooner of the Enemys came up Smiths Creek that Evening, Landed about fifty men under cover of their Cannon, took Possession of the schooner Kitty Capt Smith from Annapolis Bound to St Eustatius Loaded with Tobacco, the Schooner was fast aground and partly unrigged, which prevented them from taking her off, and about ten o'Clock the same night they Burned her. The morning following they put three prisoners on shore, by whom we Learn that there is a Fleet of sixty sail (Including Transports and Privateers) down the Bay and that they Intend to Baltimore and Annapolis a Plundering Voyage, and in their Rout they Intend to destroy all Salt works which they can come at; which I thought prudent to Acquaint you off

[Jas Hamilton, Brigd'r Gen'l, Fredericks Town, to H. E. Governor Simblae] (Thos. Sim Lee) January 30 Red Book No. 32 Letter 35

I have the honor to inform Your Excellency, that on the arrival of the British Troops of Convention here, I made a demand of Boards & Nails to make the Barracks habitable for the men & to give them reasonable space equal to their numbers. which is so far from the case at present, that one half cannot Measure their lengths on the few floors they have

To alleviate which, had Boards, Nails & Tools been provided, they would have willingly with my authorising them completed the Bar-

January 30 Red Book No. 32 Letter 35 racks. The many off puts obliges me to adress your Excellency on this Subject to know from what cause the long delay arises. Sensible as I am that Materials can be easily procured.

I have likewise to complain of the irregular & scanty manner that fuel is served out, & the only recourse on such occasions used, to permit the British Soldiers to Cut their fire wood (as I am informed) on a Gentleman's Mannor without his consent likewise that the officers have hitherto received none: a thing unheard of & without example, all which may be easily obviated by those who are both able & willing to serve the Public I have but one thing more to observe to Your Excellency, that the Troops have received no Meat for these five Days past this Day included, & that the ration in that Specie has been considerably diminished of late.

Those facts I lay before your Excellency, who with the acquiessence of the Council of this Province, will I flatter myself order redress

January 31 [Wm. Bordley to His Excel^{cy} Thos. S. Lee Esqr]

(By Mr Moody)

I now send to Your Excell^{cy} George Jackson under the care of Mr Moody Lieut & will with alacrity, if you order, send all the Tories in Kent County

January 31 Red Book No. 27 Letter 44 [Joseph Crockett, Lt. Col. Com. B. G. Frederick Town, to Gov. Lee.]

I take this opportunity to inform your Excellency by express of the great scarcity of animal food at our Barracks—the Convention troops has drawn no meat for four days past. The purchasing Commissary informs me he has but a very small Supply in view (not exceeding six days provision) the reason advanced for our scanty supply is the scarsity of money, and what he has does not pass Current. I rest satisfyed doubting not but your Excellency will adopt such measures as will afford speedy relief

January 31 [Her's Courtenay, Baltimore, His Excellency Thos Sim Lee Esqr.]

(Fav^{r} of Col^{o} Dorsey)

I have by me for some day's past, about a dozen peices Blue Cloths suitable (in my apprehention) for Officers & Soldiers Cloathing. I w^{d} Wish that they could be Appropriated for that use, rather then any other also about 10 or 12 dozen pair Ribb'd Worsted Stockings—if the State has use for such & that your Excellency will give orders to Whomsoever you appoint here for that purpose I shall be ready to treat with them; & the bearer Mr Jno Dorsey will be good enough to bring me any answer that you may please to give on the Occasion.

[R^d Hooe Alex^r to His Excellency Thos Sim Lee Esqr]

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No. 28
Letter 39

After writing Your Excell^y by Mr Smith, I rec^d a Letter from Mr James Mercer, who was so kind as to open my Letter to Col^o Lewis and undertake the Business recommended to that Gentlemen, he being too unwell to undergoe it. Mr Mercers Letter did not contain any intelligence that I thought material, therefore declined sending it you by an express. The enclosed will so soon reach you by Post, and having nothing of consequence in it I think it best to save the expence of an express.

A Boat from the Mouth of the River (left it on Sunday last) informs us there was no Enemy then there.

[To the Honorable the Governor and Council of Maryland the Petition of Henry Sheaff of Baltimore Town]

[January]

Your Petitioners Wife's Parents now in New York finding it very disagreeable to be confined to a Garrison Town have resolved to go to their native Country Holland in the Spring and are very desirous to take with them your Petitioner his Wife and Children and have made such proposals to your Petitioner to induce him to accompany them that he thinks himself bound in duty to his family to accept of provided he can obtain permission from your Honor to go to New York. That your petitioner has ever manifested himself a friend to the Cause of America and has now a substitute serving in the Continental Army during the war. Your petitioner agrees to leave with this State £200 Specie advanced to the officers of this State on Long Island the Interest of which will be more than sufficient to pay the Taxes that may be levyed on his property for the support of the war—that your petitioner further agrees to advance (agreeable to your honors request) thirty pounds to each officer of this State on Long Island who has not received a part of the money already advanced—for all which money your petitioner will agree to take Tobacco in one year from this time the price to be now fixed by your Honor or the honourable the General Assembly. Your petitioner ever willing to render any services in his power to his Country should he be so happy as to obtain Permission to go to New York will whilst he is there give every Assistance he possibly can to our officers who are prisoners there—and should he arrive at Amsterdam whilst he resides there will chearfully render every service in his power to this State. Your petitioner hopes your honors will grant him the permission he requests.

[Henry Sheaff to Gov. Lee]

[January]
[For agreement between Henry Sheaff and Gov. Lee, see Arch. of Md., Vol. 45 p. 285]

Inclos'd your Excellency some Memorandum Relative what passd, when in the Council Chamber; any mode you should think Proper to adopt more Legible will be agreeable

[January] [For agreement between Henry Sheaff and Gov. Lee, see Arch. of Md., Vol. 45 p. 285]

When you draw on me Please to do it in the following lines, by advancing to my friend who is a Prisoner, on the Island; will oblidge

Your friend; Thos Johnston Jr Baltimore.

As I advance the mony shall forward to you threw Mr Garts of this Town the Receipts of the officers and let you know what further Prospects I have Mr Garts will forward any Commands you may have with me, he also will Receive the Tobacco when I think Proper to order the same

Sunday

I have the Happines to inform you that your friend Thos Long, Mention in his letter to his friend here, that he intends to leave that some time this Month he intends to Charles Town, before he Reaches this: the arrival of Troops, I expect some Linen in the first fleet from him, I Rec'd your Guineas & Dollars shall Remit the same to your friend. I Remain with due Respect · Your Well Wisher

Florida, Baltimore, H. S.
Georgia, Virginia,
Charles Town, North Carolina
figure with 4. for Hundreds, Ditto with 4, Thousand Guineas for English Troop
Dollars for Foreign Ditto
Sunday. Maryland Refugees Imbarked and certain for Annapolis. the Mention of Mony the arrival of Troops, and Sunday and date following the Certainty of there Comeing and Refugees Imbarked were ever I Mention that Mr Long is expected to arrive is the place of Destination. I should have fixd on figures but in my opinion more Suspicious. If any mode you may fall on I will Cheerfully execute

I expect this will not Transpire from the Council Chamber.

February 1

[Geo. Murdock, to His Excellency Govr Lee]

It is with much concern I inform your Excellency, that we are now without meat & no prospect of a speedy supply, at least nothing equal to what will be necessary, having only a small quantity at this time engaged and apprehend very little more remains unsold in this County. The new Emission is of very little consequence here as yet—so that I am much distres'd for money to comply with past contracts. If the Treasury shoud be in cash and I can be furnished with such money as will pass, I think by sending out some distance, Cattle may still be purchased, particularly in Berkley County, from whence there might be some difficulty in bringing them, but if the owners cou'd be certain of ready money markets here they wou'd I think risk that—complements are daily made by the Farmers about the Town against the Guard & Prisoners for Killing Hoggs, Poultry &c. which I much fear will encrease if no method can be fallen on to supply them—please send an order on

Mr Edelen if there is any thing in his hands—he has paid the money part of the orders I have rec^d February 1

[P. S.] No cattle rec^d from below except Montg^y 6 Head

Col Weltner is Just arrived & says his Regiment will be here Tomorrow and to wait Genl Gess's order.

[John Smith Brookes to The Honble The Governor & Council] February 1

I did myself the pleasure to address you on this day week by Mr Lansdale, wherein I took the liberty of requesting a further supply of Money, as that which you furnished me with, was expended in the purchase of provisions. And as I have not heard from you on the subject have again to repeat the request.

I never 'till yesterday saw the late Law for furnishing the supplies for the present year, in which I do not conceive myself impowered to purchase provisions with Money, unless I have your particular instructions. I apprehend the collection will be so late in the year, that little meat will be paid this fall, in discharge of taxes; and therefore should think the purchase had better be continued with money. Tis now very late in the season, and no valuation of property, and it must be late in the next month before the Collectors proceed upon that business, at which time the meat season will be over—the payments I apprehend must be in grain & Tobacco. I pray to hear from you fully upon this Subject, at all events, I must repeat my prayer for a further Sum of money to comply with my contracts.

The Law directs the County Commissarys to procure Salt. I could wish in the present instance and situation of affairs, that the Governor & Council could find it convenient to furnish me with that article—as great expence would attend the Country by purchasing at this season—if I am not to be supply'd from you pray let me know, that I may take the necessary steps to engage it in time. My returns for the last month shall be handed you in few days.

[Fielder Gannt, Frederick, to Gov. Lee.] February 1 Red Book No. 28 Letter 18

Two days ago I received a letter from Gen. Hambleton concerning one to you, which he desired me to forward, as I had never seen him or conversed with any other British Officers of the Convention Troops, I was at a loss to know his reasons for applying to me on the occation, and as he lives near me (having rented the house Formerly S. [L.?] Smith's) I rote to him to inquire into his cause of Complaint, when he inform'd me that Col^l Wood had been sometime absent, and that he did not know how to apply for redress I toald him Mr Murdock was appointed by the State to supply him, when he said he had made applycation to him without success; I should not have been Instrumental in this business, had I not thought it a favourable opportunity of finishing the Barracks by which means what has been already laid out on the building may be saved the

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Letter 18

stone work is well executed, and if properly finished they will not only answer the desired end in time of War, but may be rented to advantage in time of Peace, Plank may be Procured at the Mills for 7/6, and brought to the Barracks I would suppose for 2/6 more ꝑ hun^{d}, this is in hard Cash, or Continental at the Exchange the price of Nails I do not know, but they may be had in Frederick, should you think it expedient to finish this building at present, I will indeavour to procure materials and see the work well executed.

With respect to the other parts of Hambletons complaints, permit me to observe that Col. Matthews passed this a few days since on his Paroal from New Yorke, and says that many of our Officers which were prisoners there not able to provide for themselves, were under the disagreeable necessity of going into the Provo Jail to live on the pittance allowed them by Sr H. Clinton I hope the time not far of that we shall return them measure for measure.

The Guard to the prisoners at Frederick are by no means adequate to the purpose should the prisoners be viciously inclined; they are about 150 but such a banditty you never see collected, they have been pilfering & robing for several miles round the Town, Steers, hogs, behives and geas—one of their Leiv^{ts} was broak the other day for being concerned in stealing the latter they carryed away 22 from me in one night which is all I've suffered by them as yet—those stationed at the magazines have broak it open, what quantity of lead and powder has been carryed away is uncertain, on inquiry I cannot finde any person that had the charge of the stores there that can tell the quantity which ought now to be there, and if the contents could be carefully examined I am satisfied the loss would be considerable the windows are stoped with poplar boards of one Inch

I intreat your patience while I make one more remark, rations are drawn by the returns made by the B: officers to the Officer commanding the Guard, it is notorious that many are drawn which ought not to be deliver'd

Instant Walls once an Actor on the stage at Ann^{ps} draws for himself wife & children the British say he doth not belong to them; but he is their Country man this and many other parts of this letter I would not have troubled you with had Coll Wood been here, as I am satisfied his presence would correct many abuses

February 1

[Th: Jefferson, Richmond, to Governor Lee]

I am much obliged by your Excellency's favor of Jan^{ry} 5th Joseph Shoemaker is a citizen of this State and has been an active mischevious traitor, the dangers of escape on the road from Baltimore to this place, and from this place, where since our removal from Wmsburg no public Jail has been yet erected, are so great as to induce me to suggest to your Excellency the trial & punishment of this offender under your Laws should he have committed any depreda-

tions within your State which they would punish capitally: And in this case I will on intimations from your Excellency furnish you with proofs of his citizenship authenticated in any [way] which your Laws shall require. Should he not be amenable to justice under your Laws or should he be acquitted on trial, I will on information thereof take immediate measures for having him received & brought hither. February 1

I have been honored with a Letter from the Honorable Mr Jenefer President of your Senate and Mr Bruff Speaker of the House of Delegates proposing that we should invite our Allies the French to take a post within our State convenient for the defence of Chesapeake bay, and desiring communication on this Subject with your Excellency, The difficulties on this head will certainly not arise with us. Should our Allies not have a certainty of obtaining and keeping a superiority of Naval power in the American Seas, they would probably think any post on the navigable waters of Chesapeake liable to loss. As a discussion of this matter with the French Minister required full information to him of the various Ports & grounds which they might think fitted for defence as well as for overlooking the bay, of their conveniency to aid from the Country and many other circumstances which might draw the correspondence, if on paper, to a great length. I have thought it best to desire the Honble Mr Harrison Speaker of our house of Delegates who sat out for Philadelphia two days ago, and who is perfectly acquainted with the circumstances, to speak with the French Minister on this Subject, and to give him every information which may be necessary to determine his opinion I had during the last summer taken the liberty of soliciting from him some Naval force to be stationed in our bay, and received hopes that it might be done, just when the enemy, now within this State, came into the bay, I am afraid the proof they have exhibited of the practicability of making inroads into our Country, when conducted with rapidity and aided by winds & waters will rather discourage our Allies from hazzarding much in any situation which may be pointed out.

[Pat Sim Smith, Calvert, to Gov. Lee.]

February 1
Red Book
No. 27
Letter 21

I received £200 in new Bills by Mr Gray for the purchase of Pork and Beef as also 10 Bushells of Salt by Mr Norris to salt it. I Have purchased and Salted near two thousand weight of pork and about three thousand weight of Beef both very fine. Have a Quantity of Beef now engaged but fear I shall get very little pork more in this County. Many had sold before I was directed to buy, some who had not would not take the new Bills & I could not command continental—indeed the price they sold for were higher than I was Impowered to go—being first instructed to purchase Beef and Salt it. I did not attempt to buy on the Hoof, since receiving your orders for that

February 1 Red Book No. 27 Letter 21 purpose have endeavoured but can get none, those who have for Sale will only part with it slaughtered—if Beef is to be paid on the Hoof for the Taxes perhaps I may then get some otherwise have no chance at present.

My contracts for pork have been at £3 hard money & Beef at 50/ ꝑ cent payable in new Bills at the exchange but there is some Beef in the county to fine, think I must go higher rather than not have it.

My cash is exausted and as I have some contracts to comply with next week must beg to be supplied by the first opportunity. Doctor Johnson who is now in Annapolis & I suppose will be down in a few days will readily convey it to me. I must also request to be furnished with Salt as soon as possible, what I have will soon be expended & unless I am supplied the provision may suffer for the want of it.

[February 2] [The Petition of James O Hara, late Soldier in the first Maryland Regiment, to His Excellency the Governor and the Honorable the Council of the State of Maryland.]

He has not received any Cloathing this four years past having the misfortune to get blind in the Service, And no longer able to be Serviceable to the State he was Determined to be as little Trouble to your honours as Possible but your Pettitioner having the misfortune to Be Rob'd of part of his small Necessaries in October last brings him under the necessity of Troubling your honours for a little assistance in his Low Circumstances your hon^{rs} will be pleasd to take his Case into Consideration and order him relief

February 2 [Za. Maccubbin, Junr Balt. County, to His Excellency Thom^{s} Sim Lee Esquire]

For reasons not worth communicating to your Excellency, I do hereby resign my Coroners Commission into your hands, and should your Excellency think proper to commission another Person in my room, Capt. Edward Norwood who lives in the Neighbourhood for which I was appointed, will, in my opinion be a proper Person—

February 3 [Peter Chaille Commissary of Somerset Co. to Gov. Lee]

I Reced yours Dated the 26th of December Last, and according to instructions have dun every thing in my power to purchase All the Salt Pork & Beef in our County, am sorry to inform you with little success as the People is not Fond to Receive the new Bills I have Contracted for sum Pork at two Hundred and twenty five pound ꝑ Hundred, to be paid in the new Bills at one for forty, I have offer^{d} Sixteen Hundred Dollars for Barreld Pork, in the new Bills at one for forty, shall be much oblig^{d} to you to send me by Capt. Handy, a sum of money as the People is not fond of trusting the State, pleas to send me furder instructions.

[Her's Courtenay, Baltimore to Gov. Lee] February 3

Invoice of 10 pieces Cloths & 11½ Dozen pair Ribb[d] Worsted Stockings. Viz.

1	piece	5/4	Wide	Blue	Cloth	N°	1.	31 yards	@	£118	ꝑ y[d]
1	d°	6/4	"	"	"		10.	30 "	@	150	ꝑ "
1	d°	6/4	"	"	"		16.	29½ "	@	175	ꝑ "
1	d°	6/4	"	"	"		17.	30 "	@	167..10	ꝑ
1	d°	6/4	"	"	"		14.	28½ "	@	165	ꝑ[r]
1	d°	6/4	"	"	"		3.	26½ "	@	155	ꝑ
1	d°	6/4	"	"	"		3.	29 "	@	135	ꝑ
1	d°	6/4	"	"	"		5.	30 "	@	140	ꝑ
1	d°	5/4	"	"	"		4.	26¾ "	@	142	ꝑ
1	d°	5/4	"	"	"		2.	31 "	@	135	ꝑ

11½ Dozen pair Ribb'd Worstead Stockings.....@ £52..10 ꝑ pair

His Excellency Tho[s] Sim Lee Esq[r]

I am favoured with your letter of 2[d] Curr[t] and Agreeable to your request I have Enclosed Samples of the Cloths I wrote you of, & above is Invoice of the same charged with very little more than their cost in Philad[a] the Commiss[n] there & the Expence of Transportation hither, Which I'm convinced you will be Satisfied of When you examine their qualitys; the Stockings you may depend are Exceeding good in their kind & charged very low

Cap[t] Lansdale has seen both Cloths & Stockings Who says they are good goods & Well adapted for your purpose

My situation respecting these goods is such that either Continental Currency at the prices charged or Bills on France at 15 Dollars Curr[y] ꝑ Livre is Immediately Wanted for them I wish sincerely that the new State money was in such Circulation as to render it equaly Agreeable the taking of that, but as yet there seems much difficulty in passing it at all, and as I wish this Supply was procured for the use of the Army I hope you may find it Convenient to make the purchase without being under the Necessity of giving any of the New State money in payment—as three Dollars of it is now no better then one Silver dollar according to the present State of Ex[a] was I to take any part new money I w[d] preferr that Issued under the Recomendation of Congress. I shall be glad of the honor of hearing from you on this business as soon as Convenient, because Opportunitys of Sale are daily offering.

[James McHenry, volunteer aid de Camp Majr Gl. M. de la Fayette, Baltimore, to Gov. Lee.] February 3 11 o'clock A. M. Red Book No. 32 Letter 47

I have a letter this instant from the Marquiss de la Fayette, in which he signifies that the detachment under his command will be at the Head of Elk this day or to-morrow at furthest; and presses sending forward the Vessels designed for their transportation, with

February 3 11 o'clock A. M. Red Book No. 32 Letter 47

all possible dispatch. As the shipping collected here is altogether inadequate to the purpose, and as inconveniencies may attend their going in detail, I have taken the liberty to promote the Marquiss intentions, by making this communication to your Excellency; that, if there should be any shipping at Annapolis, no moments may be lost in ordering them to the Head of Elk.

February 3

[Rich[d] Lemmon, J. Griest Baltimore Town to His Excellency Thomas Sim Lee In Council]

We waited On M[r] William Since M[r] Griest was Down with you, for A Rec[t] for Flour & Wheat which we Returnd him According to your Instructions but he would not Give any & says he Knows nothing about it as he was often Puting in & taking Out, and says we have no occation for a Rec[t] as we ware Sowrn he Dos not Deny receiving the Flour & Wheat, But why he Refuses to Give a Rec[t] We Cannot Conjector unless to prevent Our Setling Acc[ts]

February 3

[Edward Vandome, Worcester County to His Ex: Tho: Sim Lee Esq[r]]

May it please your Excellency As the Sheriffs Office by our Constitution is admitted to a resignation, I hereby resign the Office which I hold as Sheriff of Worcester County: humbly praying that your Excellency and the Hon[ble] Councill will be pleased to appoint an other person to that Office in my Stead

P. S. I have given the Court of Worcester County Sufficient & great notice

February 3

[C. T. Wederstrandt, Queen Ann's County, to His Excellency, Thos Sim Lee, Esqr.]

Few days ago at Cambridge M[r] Caile the late Commissary told me, that hearing the Assembly had named M[r] James Sulivane Commissary for Dorchester County, he had not took charge of any of the Salt you had directed him to receive from me, and M[r] Sulivane said, he could not take it before he had your orders to do it: I must therefore request your Excellency to give that Gentleman the necessary orders thereto, that I may have his receipt to produce with those of the other Counties Commissaries for the quantity of it, They will have in their respective districts.

The late John Caile Harrison deceased had by your order purchased about Two hundred bushels of wheat which now lays in Store at Cambridge, also I did find that he had remaining in Store at his decease, 21 barrels of flour 2 barrels of Ship Stuff 4 barrels Hoggs lard & 4 barrels of pork of the purchase I had made on account of the United States & that the last Vessel who loaded at Cambridge before his decease, could not take with the other provisions she carried to the Head of Elk; It being too small a quantity to send by

itself, I wish it may suit your Excellency to order it to be sent with the above mentioned wheat, by one of the State boats, or perhaps you may have immediate occasion for those articles, in which case it would be delivered to your order by Colonel Robert Harrison, except one barrel of the flour that he took for the use of State prisoners, and Two barrels of the Pork Mrs Eliz. Caile thought proper to take for Storage in Lieu of Twenty pounds in Specie she charged in her account, which I refused to pay, as I thought it too high a charge. February 3

Permit me to desire the favr to be informed soon of what your Excellency will be pleased to order therein that if no better can be done, I may direct the 20 barrels of flour, 2 barrels of Ship Stuff, 4 barrels of hogs lard & 2 barrels of Pork remaining at Cambridge of my late purchases on account of the United States, to be sent by a small craft to the head of Elk and there delivered to the Commissary of Issues.

[George Murdock, F. Town to His Excellency Govr Lee] (favd p Mr Wood) February 4

Nothing material has happen'd since I wrote your Excellency by Express, we continue to receive Beef in small quantitys so that we are now only Four or Five days in arrears and that in meat only.

A person from Carlisle in Pensylvania was with me to day and offer'd Seventy Bullocks for Sale, but for want of Money cou'd not treat with him, before he left Town he informed me that Flower in Baltimore wou'd answer his purpose and that the market price then might rule as to both. New Emission now begins to go, tho as yet but slowly & only for Articles not in immediate demand.

[James McHenry, Volunteer aide de camp Majr Gen'l. M. de la Fayette Baltimore, to Gov. Lee] February 4 Red Book No. 32 Letter 46

I had the honor yesterday to transmit your Excellency a State of the necessity there was for an additional quantity of shipping to what had been collected at this place. This instant I am honored with another letter from the Marquiss which makes a second application to your Excellency unavoidable. The vessels procured here do not amount to above 900 tons This as I had the honor to observe is wholly inadequate.

The Marquiss says in his letteer we cannot embark unless a large number comes here, and with all possible speed, we want besides these and armed vessels for our protection, a large number of boats to land the whole detachment at once, and scows for the Artillery. If dispatch boats can be found for carrying intelligence be pleased to send them here. Every thing but the vessels are in perfect readiness

For everything but the scows and a few boats, which can be got into this place permit me to beg in the Marquiss name your Excellen-

February 4
Red Book
No. 32
Letter 46

cy's interposition. I need not add that the success of the expedition turns upon getting these and the dispatch with which they are procured

February 5
Red Book
No. 29
Letter 12
[Indorsed "answd; refused."]

[James Dick, Londontown, to Gov. Lee.]

My Daughter Mrs Stewart being desirous of Returning from New York to Maryland with some of her Children I Beg Leave to Pray Your Excellency with the Honble Council will be Pleased to Grant a Permission to her for that Purpose; which I propose to send to her by Mr Archibald Buchanan when he Goes. A Late accident to me by a fall with a Sulky renders me unable to wait upon your Excellency & the Council in Person.

February 5

[Fielder Gannt, Frederick to Gov. Lee]

I wrote you last Thursday but detained the letter expecting Coll Woods return he being hourly expected, but not yet arrived, there never was worse management, than what is practiced respecting the prisoners & Guard in Frederick, last Thursday night the Magazeen was again broake open by the Guard, their waggons go out & take away wood where ever they see it corded, they have several times taken wood from me, I have so often toald G. Murdock that I would supply them with wood, but no person will come out to view it & take an account of it, I have this day sent to Murdock requesting him to meet me at the wood & examing it before it is carryed away

If you can spare time pleas to inform me by B. Wood whether their is a prospect of these Troops being removed speedily I understand the officers a few excepted are going off Imediately they have done great Injury to our money by offering hard money for sale the disaffected have got Exchange to 130 ꝑ C & I doubt not but in one month it will be 200, their Bills are purchas'd by Smith Snatsall &c to great advantage if paid.

The bearer Bob Wood is a buisie fellow I hope you will not mention anything before him that I mention to you,

I have had a very sick family since I came from Annapolis which prevented my return,

February 5
Red Book
No. 28
Letter 62

[James Nicholson, Baltimore, to His Excellency Thos Sim Lee Esqr in Council]

By a Letter received from Philad^a^ of the 28th part from the Board of Admiralty, I am orderd to inquire minutely into the State of all the Public Naval property delivered, or now remaining in the State of Maryland, and in particular what has been done with a number of Twelve pound Cannon that was delivered by Messrs Danl & Sam. Hughs in this Town, And as I am well informed that two or three of the States Gallies were Gunned in their Prow & stern with those Guns, and as those Vessels are now become private property, I have

taken the liberty of applying to your Excellency in Council and shall be much oblidged by directing me as hasty information as possible that I may be enabled to comply with my order. February 5 Red Book No. 28 Letter 62

I beg leave to mention that Mr Danl Hughs informs me that they never Cast any twelve pounders for the State,

[Wm. Smith, Baltimore to the Honble J. Holker.] February 5

In consequence of the misfortunes attending the Ship Defence, Her Cargo of flour, together with several quantitys delivered me by order of the Govr of Maryland &c^a^ for the use of the Royal Marines of France, has remaind in my hands untill it became sour & unfit for use, which occasioned my having it baked into ship bread expecting thereby to have it preserved for his m^o^ Christian Majestys fleet & Army, but as the approaching warm season is near at hand, and there now remains in store from 1500 to 2000 barrells of this bread. I would beg leave to recommend your taking such Steps for the disposal thereof as you may Judge most expedient, for though I am of oppinion this bread is sound & fit for immediate use yet I apprehend as it has principally been made from flour produced from wheat Injured by the fly I much fear, if it is not soon disposed of it will prove a total Loss

[Benjn Wickes, Cedar Point, to Gov. Lee] February 5

This will inform you that Mr Shepard in a Sloop, in company with a schooner both belonging to Mr Thos Rutling, arrived here on the 2nd since which time I have put on board the sloop four hundred & thirty five barrels flour, and think it prudent to send her off without the schooner as there is a fair wind and an apparent good chance to get safe up, the schooner shall be loaded to morrow if possible there will be about one hundred barrels left of the Cato's Cargo after the schooner is loaded.

[Jno Dorsey & Co., Annapolis, to the Governor and Council.] February 6

The schooner Nautelus is got off, and is now Safe at Baltimore, with her Guns Sails & Rigging her Cargo of flour was Landed near Cedar Point, by the Militia and we are informed by Cap^n^ Kerstead that about 150 Barrells were not injured, and that the Residue was but Little Damaged, and that the whole is now under the Care of a Maj^r^ Taylor who Claims Salvage, if the State will Purchase a Load of Flour we will still proceed the voyage to the Havanna, under the terms and Agreeable to the Former Contract, but our Losses render us unable to Advance for another Cargo—we wish to be informed what the Government will do with the Flour, what Compensation the owners of the Schooner are to Expect for the Damage done the Vessell, the Expence of Raiseing & Saveing her and her Sails &c^a^ and when they are to be paid for the Cargoes of the Fox and Naute-

February 6 lus, and what Compensation the State will make the owners for the Depreciation on the money advanced for the two Cargoes; Gold was then 85 and is now above 100 for 1. We wish not that Gold should be the Standard of the Value of our Paper money, but as its so Esteemed not only by the far greater Part of the People, but also by the Legislature and we have many Contracts payable in Specie we must sink the Difference between the Price of Gold at the time we advanced the Currency to Purchase the Flour and the Price of that Article at this day, unless the Government will make the Currency it owes us, of the Value when advanced If the Govr & Council cannot agree to make up the Depreciation we would take the Sugars in our Hands in Payment at £6 ꝑ C^{t} and New State money for the Residue and if the whole cannot be paid we would wish that the State would agree to pay the Balance in New State money

February 6 [Patrick Hamilton, Cecil County, to Gov. Lee]

Your Excellency's Order dated the 24th Ult^{o} in favor of Mr William Mackey for seven hundred and nine pounds fourteen shillings and nine pence of the new emission, was lately presented to me for payment by Mr W. Mackey, but as it is drawn on the western shore Treasurer, I was fearful of discharging it, least the Treasurer of the Eastern Shore would not discount it with me. A Letter from your Excellency, either to the Treasurer of the Eastern Shore or to me to pay the above Order will greatly oblidge Mr Mackey. If not he will certainly be greatly distressed by those of whom he purchased Horses.

February 6 [Sam'l Purviance, Jun'r, Baltimore, to His Excellency, Thomas Sym Lee, Esqr.]

Captain Murray being very solicitous to find a Prisoner exchangeable for himself, I beg leave to trouble you with a Letter which I sometime ago received from Presd^{t} Reed of Pensyl^{a} in answer to a Letter which I wrote him at the desire of Mr Lindenberger concerning a Captn Shoemaker & a Mr Steinmets who are confined in the Prison of this Town & who Mr Lindenberger supposed to be Subjects of Pensylv^{a} & consequently amenable to its Laws. As I understand that you have refused to exchange Shoemaker: I conceived it might proceed from the same opinion that he was subject to the Laws of Pensylv^{a} However that may be, I am inclined to think from the tenor of President Reeds Letter that he does not wish to be troubled with the Fellow.—Shoud there appear to you Sir no other objection against exchanging Shoemk^{r} than what I have conjectured, I hope you will consent to his being exchanged for Captn Murray, for whose Liberty I am much interested, both from Personal Regard to his merit, and from the consideration of his being Captivated in our Employment.

[Js. Mercer, St. James's, to R^t F. Hooe, Alex^a.] February 6 Red Book No. 5 Letter 47

I write you now pursuant to the plan of Correspondence promised in my first. But I have nothing of importance to communicate, nor nothing new unless it may be so, that the seven Ships mentioned in my last, to be at George's Island, certainly left that place on Tuesday last. I supose for Portsmouth as we are certain the Enemy are finishing the works at that place which indicates an Intention to fix the Post there—they have great success in procuring our Slaves & we hear their practice is to return those that belong to widows or orphans & those who will pass their paroles provided the persons have not been active in the opposition.

[Col^o Leon^d Marbury, George Town, to His Excellency Thomas Sim Lee Esquire] February 6

I Observe from an Act Pass'd the last Session of Assembly that any person, driven by the Enemy from the Southern States are exempt from Taxation, Provided they have taken the Oath of Allegiance to the State from which they came, the General & myself being Continental Officers it Can't admit of a Doubt but we have done so, the Other Gentlemen mention'd, your Excellency may rest assured have not only taken the Oaths but have done every thing that good Citizens cou'd do in support of their Country.—They being out of the way oblidges me in their behalf to request that your Excellency will be so good as to lay the inclos'd before the Honble Council & shou'd it meet with your & their approbation please Grant such Permits as are necessary for our Settling in this State & to receive the Benefit of the said Law

[Baruck Williams, Head of Elk, to Gov. Lee] February 6

Col^o Thompson's indisposition occasions my now writing on the Subject which he had orders to Execute against J. Stump. I have therefore to inform you that he has not been in the County since the Col^s receipt of the warrant, at his request I went after Stump into Harford but could not find him

By Col Hollingsworth I received £250 State money and in Consequence of your orders have purchased about 800 Bush^ls of Corn which is delivered at Elk I have also Contracted for a Quantity of Hay some of which is delivered and Consumed. There is a necessity for my having more money if you think proper I shall be glad of an order on the Collector of this County for £1000 State money which will Enable me to Comply with my Engagements & also have it in my power to git more

[P. Adams to His Excel^y the Govr & Council] February 7 Red Book No. 27 Letter 23

Mr Luckett being desirous of going home on some private business and informs that Capt Warfield will do his duty at the Magazine

February 7 Red Book No. 27 Letter 23 untill he returns, he has Permission, and waits on you for the favor of Public horse, I believe it will Expedite his Journey, and do the horse no injury

February 7 [Thos. Beall of Geo. for T. Richardson, Esq., Geo. Town, to His Excellency Thos Sim Lee Esqr]

Agreeable to your last, have sent to Mr Henry Rozier's for four Barrells Salt, which believe will be as much as I shall stand in need of, as to present Appearances. Inclosed you have Mr Rozier's Letter to me, Concerning the Salt.

Shall do my utmost Endeavour to forward the flesh Provisions that may be sent here from the different Com^{ys} as well as the small Quantity we have on hand here to Mr Geo. Murdock at F. Town.

As the above will be attended with expence shall be much Obliged to you for your order on the Collector of this County, for what money I shall stand in need of to defray the same

February 7 [H. Rozer to T. Beall of Geo.]

Mr Richardson sometime before he went to North^{d} desired me to deliver all the salt that I had in my warehouse to Col. Hendricks of Alex^{a} several bar^{s} of which he has rec^{d} I have sent of bar^{s} as p^{r} rec^{t} I shall make it my business to see Col: Hendricks in a few days & will then let you know the quantity remaining.

[P. S. by T. Beall of Geo. for T. Richardson Esqr] by Thos Taylor who brought up the above Salt, says he was told by Mr Rozier that he had near 100 Bushells Salt in his ware house,

February 7 [John Smith Brookes, Upper Marlbro, to The Honb^{le} The Governor & Council.]

I have your favour of the 3rd instant by the Waggon which delivered me seven Barrels of Salt, and you may rely on my utmost exertions to forward all the provisions I have here to George Town, agreeable to your directions.

I shall send a Waggon Load off on friday as I cannot procure one sooner, and continue to send it forward with the utmost dispatch.

I think would you supply me with Cash, that I should be able to purchase a large quantity of dead meat in the course of this month—'tis too late to expect any payments from the people in provisions for the ensuing tax—our assessors are not to make their returns untill the 10th of March by which time the meat season will be over and our people will not pay untill they are called upon by the Collectors.

I wrote you fully some time agoe on this subject, but was not favoured with an answer

If I am to Continue the purchase with money pray supply with that article immediately—at any rate I shall consider myself much

obliged to you for a line upon the subject—in order that I may satisfy the enquiry of many who have provisions for sale, which might not be the Case was the Commissary supplied with money. February 7

[William Clagett, Piscataway, To Col° John H. Stone, Annapolis.] February 7
(By C. Landsdale)

My Brother informs me that he thinks the Council are in want of Goods fit for Soldiers Cloathing, & has recommended it to me to make you an offer of five pieces strong English Bearskin that are exceeding Proper either for Coats or Blanketts. Two yards of it is very sufficient for a good Blankett. I Inclose an Acc^t of them on the lowest terms I can sell them and in case you incline to take them you will please send me an order on the Sheriff of this County for the Tobacco in payment by Charles Landsdale I will not dispose of them till he returns.

1 ꝑ^s	21½ yds	6/4 mixt	Bearskin	N° 1.	@	£100	£2150.0.0
1 p^s	27¾ yds	ditto	ditto	2		100	2775.0.0
1 p^s	29½ yds	ditto	ditto	3		120	3540.0.0
1 p^s	24¼ yds	Brown	ditto	4		120	2910 —
1 p^s	7¾ yds	Blue	ditto	5		100	775 —
							12150.0.0

at £55.0.0 ꝑ 100—22091 hhs Crop Tobacco

[H. Hollingsworth, Head of Elk, to His Excellency the Governor in Council.] February 7 Red Book No. 30 Letter 120

And please your Excellency & Honors the Law falling of course on the first of this Inst. the Flower and wheat Stoped here, are since gone on Except that claimed by the Agents of the Bank, which is held untill they clear up the matter regarding the purchase as this Flower was actually going on in violation of the Law (if it is not Bank Flower) I have also requested the Agents of the Bank to make me a return of all Flower forwarded by them on that account, which they have not yet done, though I dont look on it I have any right (by the Law) to hold the Flower untill that is done, providing the other was comply'd with, yet think it highly proper that such a return ought to be made, and the Flower purchased by them apply'd as part of the quota for this State—the wheat sent me the Last year is now all manufactur'd and will be sent on this week, the Bread is nearly all Baked and will be packed and sent on in two weeks from this date, so that by that time I shall be able to make a compleat return of all the provision, Forage Stock & C^t forwarded through me by this state in the Last year, a return of which shall be forwarded, and a Duplicate to the Board of War, Mr Baruch Williams Comissary for this County has been very assiduous in pro-

February 7
Red Book
No. 30
Letter 120

curing Forage, both Long and Short for this post, so that wee have a clever Little supply for the present, the demand being not very great, Corn may be had delivered here at twelve Pounds, ten shillings Continental Hay at about five Hundred £ p^r Ton for Cash, I have Reced no wheat, Flower, or Forage Lately save the Forage from Mr Williams

February 8
Brown Book
No. 3
Letter 25

[M. Gist, Baltimore, to Gov. Lee.]

I am favored with your letter of the 6 Ins^t concerning a resolution of the General Assembly requesting the Council to direct Captain Browns Company of matrosses, and part of the German Regiments to march to Frederick Town to serve as a Guard to the British convention Troops

I could have wish'd the Assembly had considered my situation previous to their resolution as it would have relieved me from the pain I must feel in doing any thing that may wear the appearance of contravening their instructions, they must in that case, have seen that as an Officer of the United States I am only subject to the orders of Congress—the Commander in chief or such superior Officer with whom I may serve; that I cannot act against their Instructions and can receive orders only from them, consequently I am answerable for the disposition of any Troops which may be placed under my command, who can receive no orders but such as are Issued thro' me. However what the Assembly should have known then, must now serve as an explanation of my Duty and conduct. Your Excellency The Council must be aware, that a disposal of the Continental Troops either passing through a State or Stationary in it, by any other Authority but a Military one, must be productive of much evil and embarrassment, and might defeat enterprizes of co-operation and destroy a competency of power in the Commander in Chief or the Delegates without which no Army can operate to effect.

Captain Brown with the detachment under his command are therefore on their march with Artillery & Stores for the Southern Army, by order of the Commander in chief thro' the channel of General Knox; and it is my instructions to forward them with all possible dispatch; I cannot therefore do any thing less, and have given him orders accordingly.

I had the Honor to inform the Council of the situation of the German Regiment when I was left at Annapolis who were pleased to concur with my orders for their march to Baltimore, these orders were Issued the 20th last month & forwarded to Colonel Weltner and I have found no reason since for an alteration, but as Col^o Weltner is sick and the officers of that regiment upon the point of retiring upon the half pay establishment I have sent Captain Lansdale to take command of them and March them to this place in order to equip and forward them to the Southern Army.

[Robt Harrison, Dorchester County, to His Excellency Thos Sim Lee] February 8

Having for some years past held the Several Offices of Magistrate, Col^{l} of Militia, and Commissioner of the Tax, which offices I have endeavoured hitherto to discharge with the utmost degree of fidelity tho with exceeding great inconvenience to my own private concerns; And whereas the late Assembly have greatly increased the business of the Commissioners of the Tax, and my own Domestic affairs requiring much more time and attention than heretofore; I find it absolutely impossible for me (unless I cou'd afford to devote the principal part of my time to the Public Service) to discharge the several duties required of me by the public Commissions which I now hold, with that punctuality that is necessary for the faithful discharge of the trust reposed in me, Therefore I beg leave to resign my Colonels Commission, that, being the only one in my power to give up; for reasons too obvious to mention: And as I cou'd not prevail on Lieut^{t} Hooper to receive it from me, I take the liberty to inclose it to your Excellency, and beg leave to assure you, that I am still Zealously disposed to promote the Public service as far as I am able in the narrow sphere in which I move; (and much farther than my present circumstances will admit of) when ever my services can be rendered useful.

[Sam Huntington, President, Philadelphia, to Gov. Lee.] February 8 Red Book No. 8 Letter 48

Your Excellency will receive enclosed, two important resolves of Congress of the 3^{d} & 7th Instant recommending it to the several States as indispensably necessary, that they vest a Power in Congress to levy for the Use of the United States, a Duty of five per cent, ad Valorem at the Time & Place of Importation, upon all Goods, Wares & Merchandize of foreign Growth & Manufacture which may be imported into any of the said States, from any foreign Port, Island or Plantation after the first Day of May 1781, except Arms &c. as therein expressed. Also a like Duty on all Prizes & Prize Goods.

The Monies arising from the said Duties to be appropriated to the Discharge of the Principal & Interest of the Debts already contracted or which may be contracted on the Faith of the United States, for supporting the present War, and the Duties continued until the said Debts are finally discharged

You will observe from the Tenor of the resolves that if any one or more of the States immediately pass a Law vesting in Congress the Powers requested, it cannot take Effect or operate to any Purpose until all the States that are not prevented by the Events of the War shall have passed similar Laws. That is, at present, all the States except South Carolina & Georgia; and when all the other

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States have passed the necessary Laws, the Monies arising from the Duties are to be applied to their Benefit, exclusive of the remaining States, unless such States shall pass similar Laws the first Session after the Events of the War will admit of the assembling their Legislatures, and Congress have not the least Doubt of their Compliance as soon as Circumstances shall put it in their power.

The Necessity of the Duties & Imposts being raised under one general & uniform Direction is an Idea that will readily suggest itself.

I am specially directed to urge the Necessity of immediately calling the Assembly, if not already convened, for the Purpose of vesting Congress with the Powers mentioned in the enclosed resolutions

Although it may be improbable any Person not particularly acquainted with the daily Business in Congress should have an adequate Conception of the Difficulties & Embarrassments that arise for want of some permanent Fund to support the national Credit & cement more effectually the common Interest of the United States; yet, I doubt not, the Wisdom, Knowledge & Penetration of the respective Legislatures will view those Embarrassments as very great.

It ought to be remembered that Loans are not to be obtained without some permanent Fund established, at least to discharge the annual Interest punctually, That, in the present Situation of our Finances, the Army must be in a great Measure immediately supported by the States separately, in a precarious Manner & perhaps very unequally: and a Train of Embarrassment too obvious to need Enumeration, must ensue, which have already been felt in a Degree & must greatly increase

I have only to add that it will be of Importance to transmit to Congress the Acts that may be passed in Consequence of the enclosed resolves as soon as possible.

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No. 27
Letter 22

[Sam. Smith, Balt., to Gov. Lee.]

I had the Honor to receive yours ꝑ Express at Cedar Point, By Constant attention I sav'd above 800 B^{bbs} of the Cato's Cargo altho: at least ⅓ of the Brig was blown away level with the Keel, nearly the whole of the flour is now here & on its way up, perhaps the Vessells employ'd by your Excell^{y} may stop at Anapolis, should they; your Excell^{y} will please order them up here that Care may be taken of the flour, perhaps by repacking it may be made fit to repay Mr W. Smith with, I shall be glad to have your Excell^{ys} Directions with respect to it. The sum sent me was Inadequate to the Expence attending the preservation of the flour you'll please transmit me Three thousand pounds ꝑ first opp^{ty} sixty one B^{bbs} of flour has arriv'd here & will be landed to morrow Morning. The Villainy of the Inhabitants ought not to go unpunish'd, In one Days ride I found near 40 B^{bbs} that they had plunder'd & stolen, 50 Bb^{les} from the schooners

cargo from whom none Could be lost, yet undiscover'd. The Difficulty & Expence of my attending at St. Mary's will deter me from the prosecution. If your Excell^{y} will order the prosecutions to be remov'd to Anapolis I will attend with pleasure to stop if possible this growing Evil, some Men of Considerable property are among the plunderers. I left a List of Vacancies for my Reg^{t} of Militia, which your Excell^{y} order'd to be fill'd I shall be glad to have them sent up I shall also be glad to have the specific Receipt for Virg^{a} forwarded me, I wish to settle all my Business imm^{y} my Misfortunes have been such as will oblige me I fear to go abroad in the Spring. Unless your Excell^{y} & the Honble the Council think me worthy to fill the Post of Vendue Master for this Town, my absence on the Cato's Business prevented my application sooner

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A List of Officers wanting in Coll. S. Smith's Battalion of Militia.
Capt Kraner's Comp^{y}

Ibid.
Letter 15

2nd Lieu^{t} James Howard, in room of a person who I am inform'd by Capt Kraner resign'd some time.

Capt Richard Ridgely
1 Liev^{t} Thomas Dewitt
2 Lieu. William Clem
Ensign Mark Alexander
} Formerly the Mercantil Comp^{y} but became a New Comp^{y} having been entirely depriv'd of Officers.

Capt B. Dickenson's Comp^{y}

1 Lieu^{t} John G. Hamilton J^{r} room of Caleb Shield, who is always drunk & Sometimes Crazy.

2nd Lieu^{t} Jacob Brown, in room of John Cannon resign'd & dead
Ensign Samuel Burtis

Sam Smith, Coll.

[Her's Courtenay, Baltimore, to His Excellency Thos Sim Lee Esqr]

February 9

I had the honour of Writing your Excellency a few days past with samples of some Cloths, since Which I have not the pleasure of hearing from you; the day after my last letter Genl Gist was looking at the Cloths & stockings I wrote you of & highly approves of them & Desired that I w^{d} make use of his name on that head. Which I had not until now an opportunity of doing; these goods are very low charged & if you see fitt to Accept of them at my prices, shall be glad to be favoured with an Answer; as some of them are daily going off & tho the State Money is not yet become generaly circulant I will Indeavour as far as I can to show how much I approve of it, by Accepting it in payment

[Holker, Annapolis, to Gov. Lee.]

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Letter 39

It is now many months since the flour & wheat purchased under the sanction & authority of the then Governor & Council of Maryland By William Smith Esquire of Baltimore for the use of the

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Marine of his most Christian Majesty, was seized in his hands or those of his various agents in Consequence of a Law of this state: From that moment, I have not been able to procure any settlement of accounts, nor a Knowledge of the flour or wheat purchased for the Royal Marine, nor has Mr Smith been able to procure from the State, that part of either which was appropriated by the State Commissioners for the urgent necessities of the Continental army; I am very sensible, In consequence of what passed yesterday in Council, that your Excellency & the supreme executive are equaly desirous with myself to put an end to this unfortunate transaction in the most expeditious & equitable manner. I shall only take the liberty of Requesting that you'll condescend to Consider of & to enable me to adopt the most effectual measures of or obtaining a speedy & certain setlement of this matter

Mr Smith having in his Possession upwards of five thousand Barrels of flour purchased in the Greatest part since last fall, in order to compleat the 15,000 Barrels which he had been authorized to procure for the Royal marine, I have the Honor of Requesting that your Excellency will please to give the necessary Instructions so as he may [be] permitted to forward three thousand Barrels of flour By the head of Elk, to Messrs Turnbull & Co: my agents in Philadelphia to be deposited in the stores of the Royal Marine, conformable to the Instructions he may hereafter receive from me: The present situation of things will I Believe sufficiently Justify this Requisition, without any further elucidation on my part. It may suffice to add that Mr Smith will religiously conform in this business to any formality which may be required from him, in order to Prevent any evasion of the Laws of this State.

Permit me also, Sir, to transmit to your Excellency, the Inclosed Letter of the 5th from the above mentioned Wm Smith Esqre In consequence of which I have the pleasure of proffering 1500 Barrels of Biscuit for such use as y^r Honorable the Council may think Proper: should my Proposition & the Biscuit when examined be acceptable, Mr Smith will be authorized to Determine the value thereof with the state Commissioner, which value may be made payable in state money or such other as will have a free circulation at the time of Payment, at the then current Exchange.

It would be extreamly agreeable if your Excellency would make it Convenient to Return a Speedy answer to these objects, so as I might make my arrangements In consequence.

February 9

[Bond of Zephaniah Turner, Auditor General.]

Know all men by these presents that We Zephaniah Turner William Hyde and John Bullen are held and firmly bound unto the State of Maryland in the sum of Five Thousand pounds to be paid to the said State. To which payment well and truly to be made and

done, we bind ourselves and each of us our and each of our heirs executors and administrators in and for the whole jointly and severally firmly by these Presents Sealed with our Seals and dated this Ninth day of February in the year of our Lord one Thousand seven hundred and Eighty one. February 9

The Condition of the above Obligation is such that if the above bound Zephaniah Turner who is appointed Auditor General, does and shall faithfully perform his Duty as Auditor General aforesaid, then the above obligation to be void else of full force

Signed Sealed and delivered in the presence of

T. Johnson J^{r}	Wm Hyde
T. Gassaway	John Bullen
Zeph. Turner	

[John Selby, Thomas Martin, Peter Chaille, James Martin, William Handy, Robert Done; Worcester, to Governor Lee] (By Mr. Truitt) February 10

By means of Mr Vandomes' resignation which you will find enclosed; the County is without a Sheriff. Mr George Truitt (the bearer hereof) is desirous to serve the publick in that Office: and as many inconveniencies, may arise to the County in its present situation; we have prevailed on Mr Truitt to make immediate application to your Excellency for a Commission. We beg leave to recommend Mr Truitt as a person (in our opinion) of integrity: and one that will do every thing in his power to give general satisfaction in the execution of the said Office.

[Edward Ballard, Hampton, to S. Steward] February 10

This is to Inform you of my unfortunate Passage home in the Brig Kitty by your Directions I was Stearing for Philadelphia the 14th of Jan^{ry} fell in with the Brig Halker Capt. Cain who Informed me that the Fleet had Left Virginia which Incouraged me to proceed for this but unfortunately fell in with them and got taken I am now on parole in Hampton and should be very glad if the Capt & Crew are not yet Exchanged that it may be possible to get one of them to Exchange for me as soon as possible the Brig is now Lying at Portsmouth Mr Tucker & the other hands are now on board the Fleet at Portsmouth I was very Happy to hear you were Safe in to Baltimore as soon as I was taken I had a very Disagreeable passage we were till the 29th before I arrived to the Cape and got taken within Cape Henry I was Luckey to save most of my Cloaths and treated very well please to take care of what trifling things I Left behind till it be conv^{t} for me to get them from

NB. Tucker is very Desirous to be Exchanged as soon as it is possible as he & all the prisoners are at very Short Alowance on bord the Ship

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Red Book
No. 28
Letter 33

[Joseph Dashiell, Worcester County, to Gov. Lee.] (By Mr. Truett]

I embrace this opertunity by Mr Truett, to Inform your Excellency that their is sundry People in this County that seem Determind to give all the opposition they Can, to the Collection of the Taxes, a Certain Benj^a^ Shockley an old offender, Tryed all in his power to kill the sheriff, the other Day, in the Execution of his Office, the Sheriff has resigned his Commission, I realy beleave for fear of Losing his Life, by sum of those Enimyes, to our Country & its Gov^mt^ I would submit it to your Excellency & Council, wheather sum few Examples of such Daring Vilions as those, who in the face of your officers: will Drink success to the King of Great Britton, and Bost that in a few weeks they expect to have ample Satisfaction, for all that has bin Taken from them, and that they make no doubt, that they shall Receive Twenty for one. If such Insults as these go with impunity we need not expect to do much heare in the recruiting Business or anything else that is Disagreeable to our enemy

I this morning Rec^d^ a letter from Mr Josiah Polk of Somerset County (who has Just Returned from Lewes Town Court) Informing me that he had Business of Grate Importance to Communicate If I Could ride to his house, it was of such a nature that he did not Chose to Commit it to paper. I have rote him, if it is of a nature that Our Executive ought to be apprised of to send me an express to night that I may forward it to you

On my way home, I fell in Company with a gentlemen from Cecil County who Inform'd me that a Capt Beach who saled for Mr John Stump, had Inform'd a Mr John Thomson of Harford County that he the said Beach was Bound to S^t^ K'ts and that if he Thomson would Lend him sum hard money he should have half the profits, that Mr Thomson Did Lend Capt Beach a sum of hard money, that after Beach had got the money, he Informed Mr Thos that he had Deceaved him, for that he was going to New York and that if he was uneasey he would Return him his money, the said Beach also Informed Mr Thomson, that he had Caried one load of flower, on Bord the British fleet, in this Bay & had then got a permit, to go to New York: and that John Stump that was formerly Col^o^ Hollingsworth Clk, was Super Cargo of the said Schooner, Belonging to Stump & Co. If you should be at a loss to find out this matter, I Believe if you ware to Call on Mr John Thomson & Jeremiah Backor, that they would be able to give you much more Intelligence. Mr J. Backor lives near Suskanah in Cecil County I am informed that sum of the Insurgents that Broke Lewes Town Goal and sum others that was Concearnd in the late Insurection in that County were Skulking in this County and are harbor'd by Sum of Our Disafected, should be glad of Directions what to do with them & those that harbor them if we Can apprehend them. I most sincerely wish that the Law that past to Inforce the payment of the Taxes in Somerset

County had have bin extended to this County, as we already see the good effects of the Law, those people are runing to see who shall pay first, and I am in hopes, the Tax will be nearly paid in this month. & Before the Militia from Dorchester gits down. February 11 Red Book No. 28 Letter 33

N B. Should be much Oblidge to you to Inclose me a Commission for Mr Henry Dennis. I do not know wheather he is a first or Second Lieu^t of Capt. Pattersons Company please have it Left blank and I will fill it up he is much afraid of Being made a prisoner every night, the Enemy have bin plundering within a few nights at Annemisex

[William McBryde to His Excellency Thomas S. Lee Esqr] February 12

I This day rec^d Yours dated 5th Instant, & Notes the Contents, Since my Last [damaged] About 3^m more of Pork should not have got that, only, by Exchanging the new money for old, with the diff^nt Collectors & Sheriff, However have been able with there assistance to make Good my Contracts, the Purchase now of Fresh Provision is mostly over, I should be Glad to have early instructions, to Purchase Barrelled, I have below made a State of what I shall offer Till I hear from you, Please inform me whether Agreeable or not, Likewise inform me, whether the Purchase of Fresh, is as Cheap as the Other Countys in Generall, & the Highest Price I must go for Barrelled Pork & Beef, Likewise Please send Down by first opportunity another Supply of money, as I am in Hopes by 1st of March to have none Left of any kind. I Congratulate you, on the news from Carolina, but am sorry to inform you, the Robers from on Board the Hybernia (which is Lying about the mouth of Anamesicks) went ashore one night Last week to A Certain Mrs Sehan, Living near Head Manokin, & Rob'd her, but were Disturbed by some of the neighbours, so as not to take all they intended, The Hybernia has been About the Sownd ever since her engagements with the Purpose, we hear her Loss was 3 Killed & 5 Wownded by a Person who was on Board the Time of Action.

250^w Pork @ £200	£500.. 0..0	
72 B: Salt	50.. 0..0	
Barrells	22..10..0	
Salting, Cutt up & Bar^ll	50.. 0..0	
Trouble getting Salt &c.	22..10..0	
	£645.. 0..0	having to send a great Distance The Price I offered £650 even money.
250^w Beef @ £150	£375.. 0..0	
Same Expences	145.. 0..0	
	£520.. 0..0	

February 12 [P. S.] I Rec^d A Letter from the Bearer for the Collector of the Tax for Somerset County & sent it to him immediately & Likewise the Letter for Coll^l Dashiel.

I am Concerned in a Brigg of 60 foot Keel, Lying in Nanticock & Launched the Other day, Deep Waisted & Pierced for the Gunns, Should you want such a Vessell will Sell on Reasonable Terms

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Letter 67

[C. Forrest, Phila, to Gov. Lee.]

I have (without being able to effect it) taken every pains to dispose of the Tob^o which your Excell^cy put into my hands—that Article will not sell here without it is on the spot, and Inspected: indeed the Maryland Tob^o is in great discredit; tho £130 might be obtain'd for any not of a very inferior quality.

Not being able to make sale of the Tob^o has put it out of my power to procure the Goods required. Notwithstanding every article in your list is to be had here and that too on much better terms than I expected Blanketts & soldiers Cloathing will not be higher soon, Linen & fine Cloth I apprehend will rise.

I wish your Excellency & the Council had order'd your Tobacco to this place; There does not appear to me to be any other way of getting clear of it to advantage; and I am sure the difference in Prices of the Goods required for your Army is much more considerable than is generally immagined

As there is no probability of my getting any thing done with this Tob^o I shall set of for Annapolis in a day or two where I apprehend I ought to be as soon as possible

It is impossible to say how much Injury may arise from Maryland not being represented in Congress; besides the Capital Question of laying a duty on all imported goods (with some few exceptions only & then too meerly to gratify the whim & Caprice of particular States) Congress have under Consideration the appointment of all Civil Officers the different departments have all undergone an entire reformation there is to be one more only at the Head of the four great departments who are to Rank & be stiled as follows—first the Minister of Finance 2nd the Minister at War, 3rd Sec^y of the Marine dep^t & 4^thly Secre^ty for foreign affairs. Now if Maryland was represented the Confederation could be signed which would prevent two Evils the first and most Capital is that it would exclude the Members of Congress some of whom are making Interest, or at least are named & expect the appointments, or some of them. The second and perhaps lesser Evil is that three States are now represented by one member which member has a vote, when Maryland & one other State have each a member who remain Cyphers, I presume Mr Carroll will inform you what news we have from Spain by a Vessell that arrived at this port yesterday & an Acc^t of the damage done the

British ffleet by the late storm. Monsr Marbois sat out this Morning for Annapolis with two other French Gent^{m} Colonels in that Service they will tell you how much credit your State has acquired by their Timely consideration. February 12 Red Book No. 28 Letter 67

[Memo of Sundries to be purchased by Col^{o} Forrest in Philadelphia] February 3

I am to dispose of the Potomack Tobacco on the best terms that can be obtained, the notes to be del^{d} The Eastern Shore Tob^{o} on the best terms, either delivering the Notes; or engageing to deliver the Tobacco, at the head of Elk or Phil^{a}

To Procure for the State.

200 Blankets
100 Ream of paper for Printing (must be had)
10 Ream of ditto for writing
120 Yards Blue Broad Cloath for officers
120 yards White ditto for d^{o}
15 yards of Scarlet ditto

Trimmings for the above.

20 ꝑ^{s} Irish Linnen cos^{t} about ⅛ @ ⅔ ꝑ y^{d}

Cloth and trimmings for 350 Suits of Soldiers Cloathing

If all the above Articles cannot be obtained then equal proportion of each except the paper & Soldiers Cloathing.

What sum of money is to be left with the Delegates and what sum sent down in old Money to the Treasurer?

[H. Hollingsworth, Head of Elk, to His Excellency, Thomas Sim Lee Esqr. In Council.] February 12 Red Book No. 30 Letter 121

And please Your Excell^{y} and Honours The difficulties I am at to collect the Forage purchased by Mr Williams comisary for this County determins me to set up a Waggon or two on account of the State at this Post for the use thereof, as the continental waggons here are much reduced in both quantity and quality, which has prevented me from compleating my returns for the last year, as the Flour has been all ready for some time and I Expect will be forwarded this week, the Bread nearly ready, which as soon as deliveries are made, Returns shall be made out and sent to your Excellency and Honours—in consequence of the above I have bespake a Waggon and Harness with baggs &^{ca} and if there is any Spare Horses belonging to the State at any Post, not in immediate use, am of opinion they could be removed to this without any detriment to them, as their Business would principly be collecting Forage, a Servce which Horses will thrive at, I have heard of two Horses taken from nonjuries which have return'd shall seek them and if they belong to the State apply them to this Service, and if none others can be had from other Posts, must buy, at least as many as will compleat one Team,

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No. 30
Letter 121

as I dont see that we can do without it, have drawn the Eight thousand pounds continental of Mr Pat^k^ Hamilton collector for this County, which I got the order for Septr last. (to enable me to compleat this business) and if there be any such Horses should be glad to have an order for them—

February 13
Red Book
No. 5
Letter 58

[Daniel Carroll, Philadelphia, to Gov. Lee.]

I did myself the honor yesterday to address a few lines to you by M. de Marbois, & the Counts Charles & Dillon. A vessel from Cadiz arrivd here the day before yesterday: The president received by this opportunity letters from Mr Carmichael, the last dated the 24th of Decr none from Mr Jay. The Combind fleets had separated the French under the Command of D'Estaign suppos'd to have saild for Brest, but no intelligence had been received of his arrival there, tho' there had been full time to have heard it. The Empress Queen dead, the Dutch had acceded to the arm'd neutrality. The dificulty about the navigation of the Mississippi remains; It will I believe be remov'd on our part in a few days. Preparations were making in England to send more troops, suppos'd to be destin'd to fix a Post at Portsmouth, and a part for Charles Town, He hopes our Ally will frustrate their design I will endeavour to be more particular on this head by Co^l^ Forrest who will leave us in a day or two. Intelligence has been receiv'd, that two ships of the line, & a frigate put out from Gardiners Bay to intercept two French Frigates from Boston to Newport; they were in the storm about the 20th Ult^o^ The French frigates had got into Newport with little damage, one of the Brittish Ships returnd dismasted & very considerably damaged, the other believ'd to be cast away on Montuck point. The frigate return'd.

The Mutiny which arose in part of the Jersey line has been properly settled—two of them executed, which I hope will put a stop to that dangerous Spirit.

Please to present my Comp^s^ to y^r^ Lady & to the Gentlemen of the Council. I will endeavour to comply with my promise to Messrs Brice, Stone & Wright by this Post, by next, certainly.

February 13

[David Craufurd, to Gov. Lee] (Honoured by A. Contee, Esq.)

By a Law that passed the last Sessions I think their is to be a Vendue master appoitned in each County. If their is none yet appointed for Prince Georges County I beg leave to recommend to your Excellency and the Honourable Council Mr Benjamin Brooks as a very Proper person for that Office, and I am well convinced should he be appointed to that place that he will Discharge his duty with the greatest Fidelity and give very general Satisfaction in the County.

[Joseph Dashiell, Rehobes, to Gov. Lee.] February 13

I Rote you the other day by Mr Truitt in which I informed you that Mr Polk had sent to me, that he had a matter of Importance to Communicate, it is that a Certain James Welch of Baltimore had Lodged sum goods at this place, the Neat Proceeds of Eighty hhd Tobacco that he had run to New York, under the pretence of Being Taken, he has now gone to Baltimore and has Caried up with him a man by the Name of Mr Isaac's, who we have reason to believe is a Capt of A Vesel that he Intends to run to New York with Flower & Tobacco upon searching we found Two small packages but no goods in them. I am informed that James Welch has a protection which is on silk paper, Between the Lining of his Jackcate, and I make no doubt Mr Isaac's has a protection, My Brother and myself will send an Express to you within a few Days, by which I will be more full, for want of paper at this place must Conclude

[Js. Mercer St James's, To Collo Robert T. Hooe] February 13

I write you by this Post, to comply with my former Promise there is nothing from the Southward worth communicating except that the return of the French Fleet may allmost be depended on—a Person of Intelligence this moment from Richmond says it is so & a Letr of authority from Wmsbg on the 10th says " we wait only for the French Fleet hourly expected to return " this waiting respects the begining of operations agt Arnold which wee are now ready for when the French Fleet shall be ready to cooperate.

[Jon'n Hudson, Balt., to Gov Lee.] February 13

If you Intend to have any Herrings sent up the Ensuing Season for the Public, I will Engage with you for any Quanty you will want at 15/ specie pr Barrel you to find Barrels & salt, the price before the War for this Business was 12/6 pr Barrel & the Extra price of hands Provisions Seins &c is fully Equal to the Difference I now ask you & If you will furnish me with Money I will procure the Salt & Casks on as Good terms as I Can & I believe the salt may be had at Phila on Good terms at this time wch is nearly as convenient as having it here & the price I apprehend will Rise as the Fishing Season aproaches therefore the sooner the Purchase of such article is made the better the Barrels are plenty & may be had on Equal terms as before the War, I will Engage that the Fish shall be put up in a Merchantable Manner otherwise it shall be my loss, & your ansr on this Subject as soon as Possible is necessary because it is full time to prepare for fishing so I will be much obliged to you to send me by Major Yates or some other Safe hand Four hundred Pounds State money in pt of my Acct wch shall be Good for £16000 say Sixteen thousand Pounds Contl I have an opty of Passing it I beg you will

February 13 not Disappoint me the Want of my money from the state has been a grievous loss to me, I advanced to the Gent^{n} the Goods belonged too, the full am^{t} 6 or 8 months agoe

February 13
Red Book
No. 7
Letter 209

[Richard Peters, War Office, to Gov'r Lee.]

The Board have been honoured with your Letter of the 20th January. The Commissions requested in your Letter of the 29th May were forwarded to the Commanding General of the Southern Army. The Commission for Mr Nelson will be made out agreeable to your Request. In Answer to that Part of your Excellency's Letter which relates to Rawling's Regiment we beg Leave to assure you that this Board have never interfered in the Arrangements of the Army they being merely ministerial in the Business & never issue Commissions but according to the Certificates of the Executives of the several States. The Remnants of Rawling's Regiment cannot now be considered a Separate Corps as they are not mentioned in the Regulations of the 3^{d} & 21st October last. The Board cannot issue Commissions but to Officers now in Service agreeable to those Regulations & it depends upon the Government of Maryland to say whether these Officers or any others of this State shall be commissioned in the present Army & in what Regiments they shall serve. We should were these Obstacles out of the Way be happy in complying with your Request for issuing commissions to the Officers late of Rawling's Regiment but under present Circumstances we do not think ourselves justifiable in doing it

February 14
Red Book
No. 27
Letter 24

[Sam. Smith, Balt., to Gov. Lee.]

I wrote your Excell^{y} ꝑ last Post, to which I beg your reference. Mr John Dorsey informs me that the determination of the Council is to send up the Cato's flour to Mr Donellan to be repack'd. Whenever the State trades it must Submit to the Laws & Customs of Commerce that being the Case I must Inform you that Part of the Cato is Insur'd, the Benefit of which will be lost unless the legal & accustomd process is follow'd with respect to her & the Cargo. Whenever the Capt of a Vessell is pursued & runs his Vessell on Shore & by that Means saves a part, that part must pay its average & proportionate part of the Loss of the other, the reason is obvious for had he not sacrific'd the Ship the Cargo would have been totally lost, Custom is so, Justice dictates it, we have two or three other Vessells exactly in like situation & all are up without Hesitation Settled in like Manner. The whole that is sav'd must be sold or apprais'd, we propose selling the Savings from the Cato & Barr Iron & expect the flour to be also sold, the State can become the purchaser, & then the necessary repacking can be made—and then the good must be paid to Mr William Smith who now Calls for Immediate payment I presume 750 B^{bles} may be made good to deliver him. I Have near 150

Bbles in my possession belonging to Virginia if your Excell^{y} will Include them in the Specific Receipt I expect from you, might be paid to Mr Smith & with a little aid would finally settle that unfortunate affair. This will be much the easiest & most equitable Mode of Settling. February 14 Red Book No. 27 Letter 24

[Jas. Calhoun, Baltimore to the Governor and Council.] February 15

I have not been Honoured with a letter from your Board since Mr Chase left this but hear that Mr Yates was elected Auctioneer for this county which confess has mortified me not a little as it was the only place I ever solicited & had flattering hopes of success

After what I wrote you last it is perhaps improper for me to do any act whatsoever in the Commissary Departm^{t} but the necessity of the case induced me to continue furnishing Mr Donnellan with Provisions &c^{a} to Issue at this Post, and ship stuff & casks to enable him to get the damaged flour baked into Bread. If no appointment has yet been made in that Department I should be glad to have an oppertunity of consulting your Excellency & Council on some part of the present Supply Bill previous to anything farther being done in that matter and will wait on you for that purpose if agreeable

[Richd Dallam, Harford County, to Gov. Lee] February 15

There being no directions in the Law for my receiving Indian Corn for the present Taxs And being frequently apply^{d} to by Gent^{n} Who have Corn to sell and Who will wait for the money untill it can be collected I have thought it my duty to inform Your Excellency And to desire Orders to purchase as I doubt not its being want^{d} for the Army the price askd me is three shillings ꝑ Bush^{l} shell^{d}

As your Excellency may wish to form a judgment of the Quantities of Provisions that may be expected from each County in Virtue of the Law for raising supplies for the present year I therefore inform your Excellency that not more then 3000 Bush^{ls} Wheat can with certainty be reckoned on from us. As to Pork & Beef I have no hopes of obtain'g a pound neither can I promise any fall Cattle, A few Poor Steers may be purchased which may be fatted with the ofall of the wheat & a Little Hay, by the months May & June at which Time I apprehend they will be much want'd I shall be Glad to be favor'd with Your Excellencys sentiments as soon as may be convenient

[William Hanna, to Governor Lee and Council] February 15

The State Skew drifted to the eastern Shore last Summer, & has been there ever since. If you think proper to sell her: I shall give you the Value of her in Wood delivered at Annapolis, Please let me know your Price & oblige

February 15 [John Moale, Wm Spear, And. Buchanan Baltimore Town to His Excellency Thos. Sim Lee Esqr]

Henry Stevenson Esqr late Collector of Baltimore County informs us that his Bond is to be put in suit in Consequence of his not Discharging the Balance of an Acct some time since Settled by us and deliver'd to the Treasurer of the Western Shore—we now inform Your Excellency that we have not (agreeable to the Act of Assembly for his relief and for the suspension of the Treble Tax on the sums of Nine pounds fifteen Shillings) settled his Acct therefore hope his Bond may not be put in suit until his Accots are finally settled, which we Expect will be done in a Short Space of time.

N. B. for further Particulars we refer you to Mr Archibald Buchanan J. M.

February 15 [Donl. Yeates, D. Q. M. Elk, to the Gov. & Council.]

The inclosed Estimate I have Just recd from the Quarter master for the Southern Army, he urges the immediate forwarding the Horses and Gears, and the strictest attention to the procureing and forwardg the other Specific Articles concluding that no Army ever was in greater want, I take the earliest oppery to refer the circumstance to your Hon. Board for Your Order therein,

Estimate of Quarter Masters Stores to be supplyed from the State of Maryland for the Southern Army the ensuing Campaign formed in due proportion to her Quoto of Troops. January 21st 1781

Knapsacks, 3500; Marques, 8; Horsemans Tents, 60; Commen ditto, 600; Camp Kettles, 600; Camp Kettles with covers for officers, 150; Axes, 600; Leather Portmanteaus for officers, 150; Camp Stools, 150; Linen bags to be filled with straw for officers and sick, 250; Linen bags with slings for Camp Kettles, 600; Canteens with slings, 3500; Saddler for expresses & contingent uses, 50; Bridles for ditto, 50; Halters, 1000; Canvas for Batteau covers, yards, 1000; Pears for 50 Teams (four horse); Rheam of writing paper, 50; Ink Powder a proper proportion for the paper; Quills, 2000 Boxes of wafers, 100; Sealing Wax; Draught Horses young & strong, 50.

Ed. Carrington
D. Q. M. S. A.

The Deputy Quarter Master for the State of Maryland

February 16 [Richd Barnes, Leod Town to His Excellency Thos Sim Lee Esqr]

We have for sometime past been ravaged in this Coty by the Enemy. They on Friday last landed and plundered several familys on Smiths Creek, together with a quarter of mine there, from which unless a proper force by Water can be procured to drive them away (as there are many of their Vessels, as I am informed constantly

about our Shores) I am well satisfied, they will do much damage in this County. If any of the Militia are called on to do duty we shall be at a loss for Bread: Would it not therefore be prudent to reserve a part of the flower that was saved from the Vessels that were drove on shore for that purpose. February 16

[Daniel Carroll, Philadelphia, to Gov. Lee.] February 17 Red Book No. 5 Letter 57

I have only to add to what I wrote y^{r} Excellency last, that Mr Carmichael mentions in his Letter that the plan for fixing a Post in Chesapeak is said to have been suggested to the Ministry by Sr Jeff^{ry} Amherst & that 3 Regm^{ts} of Horse are to be among the troops destind for America. A Committee of Congress have under Consideration the removal of the Convention Troops. I hope soon to have it in my power to inform you of the determination of Congress on that subject.

It will give me pleasure to have an opportunity of executing any commands of y^{rs} & y^{r} Lady to whom I present my Comp^{s}

[Joseph Ford, Leonard Town to Gov. Lee] (Favored by Mr. A. Ford.) February 17

Four Certificates that I gave for Draught Horses has been Brought to me within this few days the People Requesting I would take them in and Pay them the money Urging that they have offered them to the Treasurer and he would not pay them they Amount to six Thousand five Hundred and fifty Pounds, I should be glad if convenient that that sum of money may be sent by the Bearer Mr Athanasuss Ford to discharge that Debt; we have a Mill now that Makes good flour shall I have the wheat Manufactured that I have of the Publick what will be the terms I may agree with the Miller on?

[U. Forrest, Phila, to Jas. Wilkinson, Esqr.] February 17 Red Book No. 28 Letter 72

This will be accompanied by notes for 150 hh^{ds} of Patowmack Tob^{o} belonging to the state of Maryland which you will dispose of on the most advantageous Terms for their use provided you Can obtain at least £60 ꝑ Cent

You will herewith receive a list of Cloathing wanted for Public Acc^{t} which you will procure on the best Terms in your Power. You will observe that 26 ream of Paper for Printing Bills of Credit & 70 ream for Printing the Laws & proceedings of the Genl Assembly together with the Soldiers Cloathing are the Articles more immediately necessary after Transmitting to His Exc^{y} the Govr £30000 in Continental Money. The above Business must be executed in the course of two weeks or not at all. You will write me by the next & the Succeeding Post your Prospects in the execution of this Business

February 17 Red Book No. 28 Letter 72 that the Govr & Council may be informed whatever Compensation or Commission the Executive of Maryland may think proper to allow you for Negociating this Business you are to be content with. I wish this may lead to a Connexion with your native State that may be Benificial to both it and you

February 17 [Baker Johnson, Fred^{k} Town to Gov Lee]

Yours of the 5th Ins^{t} inclosing the Resolve of the House of Delegates, relative to Capt Browns Corps and Col^{o} Weltners part of the German Batt^{l} composing part of the Guard to the Convention Troops at this place came to hand the day before yesterday, the duplicate a day or two before Genl Gist had wrote me (I Presume with your knowledge and approbation) to deliver such Men as were under my direction here to Capt. Lansdale who he had sent to take command of the residue of the German Batt^{l}, infering that something had happened (unknown to me) that induced you to counteract the Resolve of the Assembly as to what men should compose the Guard here, I marched eleven men with Col^{o} Weltners, tho' I much wished events had not happened to have taken them from this place, the men which were marched from here, with Capt Browns Corps would have made a Guard sufficient without calling a Single Militia man and undoubtedly would have answered the end much better. Col^{o} Crockett is now under marching Orders and waits for nothing but to be relieved, I have Ordered a full Company of Militia from this County to be ready by the 21st and wrote to Col^{o} Griffith (as you directed) to have the Company from Montgomery County here by that day if possible, but I fear he will not be able I have undertaken to Issue those Orders as it is essentially necessary Col^{o} Crockett should be relieved, but I hope and for that purpose send this Express to you, that you will be pleased to appoint some other Gentlemen to take the Command of the Guard, it is by no means in my power to attend to it, and tho I would not presume to dictate, I should suppose it might not be inconvenient, or improper to send some one of the officers belonging to the Maryland Line to take the Command, should there be no one, that you could immediately send, Capt Bailey lives in Town and I suppose might discharge the trust very satisfactorily Col^{o} Crockett has requested me to inform you that the Prisoners have not drawn any flesh provisions this 15 or 16 days, that the Guards are several days in arrear, I leave you to Judge what the Militia Guard will say to such living, would it not be right to impower Mr Murdock to send Waggons to Pr. Geo^{s} for what flesh is there, or any where else that it is to be had. I must not omit to mention that the whole neighbourhood is continually plundered, owing as it is thought in great measure to the Prisoners and Guards being so badly supplied with provisions, I again request and hope you will

also appoint a Lieu^{t} to the County, and forward the Act for Classing the Property and raising the men it has not come to my hands. Should you have heard the fate of our application to Congress for the removal of the Prisoners, I should thank you to drop me a hint of it, or any thing else that is worth communicating, unless there should be a greater plenty of provisions, it appears to be best not to order any other Militia at present but the two Companies above mentioned February 17

[Richd Barnes Leo^{d} Town to His Excellency Thos Sim Lee Esqr] February 18

I wrote you some days past informing of the Enemys conduct in this part since which they have taken many Vessels loaded with Tob^{o} in our Rivers and kept the Inhabitants on the Waters of Potomack in constant alarm. As I am apprehensive it will be a considerable time before the armed Vessels can be procured that was ordered by the Assembly, I have thought it advisable to send you a Map of the County in order that you may be a better Judge of the propriety of furnishing us with Cannon. I would suppose five p^{s} which would contribute very much to the security of the County and would put it in our power to prevent the Barges and small Vessels of the Enemy doing us any dammage without a chance of their being taken and I am well satisfied would make them very cautious in attempting to take any Vessel in our Bays or molest any of the Inhabitants on them. But as the matter now stands they can pass up and down any of our Rivers with impunity, to the great disquiet of the Inhabitants. The Enemy are very expeditious in their movements up any of our Rivers and unless a p^{s} of Cannon is kept convenient it will be of little use. Maj^{r} Taylor informs me that the Carriage of the Cannon sent to this Co^{ty} is in bad order. Powder & Ball will be wanted with any Cannon that may be sent. The two men which was sent to Annapolis by your direction are gone with their Familys to the Enemy with two others, all of which are well acquainted with our Rivers and C^{h} Bay. The Enemy have constantly landed on St Georges Island whenever they have come up Potomack and I am well satisfied the People on the Island give them every information they want, it is supposed that one of them conducted them up Smiths Creek. I therefore think it would tend to the security of the County that they shuld be removed from the Island, and If such a measure can be authorised shuld recommend that it may be done, there are not more than three or four Familys on the Island with hardly any effects.

P. S. We are much in want of Cartouch Boxes to the Guns that were first sent to the Co^{ty} about Sixty would be very useful, the first cost of them would be soon saved to the State in Ammunition You have inclosed an Acc^{t} of Arms &c. by Cap^{n} Berry which dont agree with the acco^{t} of them.

February 18 An Acco^{t} of Arms &c. sent by Cap^{n} Berry

50 Stand of Arms one half of which as Bayonets.
A Cask of Powder ab^{t} 80^{lb} w^{t}
2 large Cartridges of Powder about 10$^{\#}$ w^{t}
8 doz. ditto not filled
49 Cartridge Boxes with Hoops
100 6$^{\#}$ Ball
A six pound Cannon the Carrage in bad order.
2 Rammers & Spunges
1 Ladle & Worm

February 19 [John Smith Brookes to The Honb^{le} The Governor & Council]

I have done myself the honour to write you repeatedly expressing my want of Money to execute the business intrusted to my care. I have now taken the liberty to repeat the request and at the same time would beg leave to refer you to my former observation, respecting the purchase being continued with money, for provisions of the meat kind, as I apprehend the Collection will be too late to expect any resources of meat from that business—if you should think the mode improper, a small sum of Money will suffice for the present, but if on the other hand you should advise the plan I shall need about 500£ St^{e} Cur^{y} I shall be very thankfull for a line from you by Mr Williams at present I am very busy forwarding the provisions to Geo Town agreeable to Your Commands.

February 19 Red Book No. 30 Letter 122 [H. Hollingsworth, Head of Elk, to His Excellency, Thomas Sim Lee, In Council.]

And please Your Excell^{y} & Honours By Captn James Chambers I received fifty six Barrels Flour from your Excellency and Honours. It is the first I have received since closing the accounts of Last year a Return of which is sent to the Honble Board of War, and one ready for your Board which shall be sent as soon as Giles who is now gone to Philadelphia returns, the Quantity is from sixteen to seventeen Thousand Barrels of Flour and about one Thousand B^{bls} of Bread; Exclusive of what was Bought and sent on by Mess^{r} Patt Ewing, Wedderstrand, the Commissioners of Cecil County, that sent by way of Duck Creek, and other Posts, together with this State, and Western consumption, all of which I have no account of, but suppose they must be considerable.

The Flour detained by me on account of the Agents of the Bank I have let pass on, as they have given me an Account of that with all other Flour purchased and forwarded by them through this Post on Bank account and given full satisfaction regarding it, as I am now going to open a new Sett of Books in a new scene of business according to my late appointment, will be thankfull for your General

direction and Instructions regarding the business as I would wish to Imbark in the Business as early as the Service requires, which I suppose is Immediately. February 19 Red Book No. 30 Letter 122

Least Giles should be detained I have inclosed a Return for which the Vouchers are with me, shall pack and forward the remaining Bread as soon as Casks can be had, and then close the Return for the Year 1780, I am Just now informed from undoubted authority that Paul Jones is arived at Philadelphia in a twenty Gun Ship with Dispatches of the first consequence to America (not yet made public)

Return Flour forwarded and Delivered at the Head of Elk the Purchase of different Persons for the use of the United States Ibid. Letter 123

From whom received in the Year 1780	and by whom forwarded	Barrels Flour
Commiss^{rs} Hartford & Balti^{o}	Henry Hollingsworth	2102
d^{o} Different Counties	Thomas Ramsay	7151
Manufactured from Wheat	rec^{d} from diff^{t} Commiss^{rs}	3367
Different State purchasers	Thos Ramsay & E. Wright	1176
Bank in Philadelphia	Broom & Johnson	1338
ditto	Zebulon Hollingsworth	285
ditto	John Barnaby	340
Honble Board War	Thomas Ramsay	200
	bbls. Bread	15959
From different Purchasers	384	825
Manufactured at Elk	429	16784
Ditto and Delivered Thomas Ramsay to	 12	
5..3.. 2 supposed to be equal	825	
12..2.. 1 unpacked		
18..1..13		

Not included in this Return the Flour purchased by Cecil County Commissions, nor Flour forwarded by Patrick Ewing Esqr Theo. Wederstrand Esqr both A C p^{s} the Quantities by them sent unknown

[Daniel Carroll, Philadelphia, to Gov. Lee.] February 20 Red Book No. 5 Letter 56

I did myself the honor of sending a few lines by Co^{l} Forest who left this place on Sunday morning. Capt Paul Jones arrivd in this City on Saturday night from L'Orient which he left about the Middle of Decr we are cruelly disapointed in not receiving any Cloaths or Arms by him. A Vessel with cloaths, which saild with him, when he was oblig'd by a Storm to return to Port, Capt Jones says, was taken & carried into England. The arms he had on board were damag'd & Landed, & cou'd not be put in order against his departure. He has not brought any Public Stores, that I hear of, excepting ab^{t} 400 Barrells of Powder, & some lead. Cloathing for ten thousand men ready made up, besides a considerable quantity of Cloth &c & the arms remained in France for other opportunitys

On the first day of my appearing in Congress, I delivered the Act empowering the Delegates of Maryland to Subscribe the Articles of Confederation &c. It was read & entered on the Journals. The presence of another Delegate is only wanting to compleat this impor-

February 20
Red Book
No. 5
Letter 56

tant business; I find the hopes & expectations of Congress very sanguine on this event. A Letter received by Co[l] Moylan from his Brother of the 10th Dec[r] from L' Orient gives every reason to believe, as far as a Merchants authority will go, that considerable assistance by Ships & men may be lookd for soon from France

Please to present my Comp[s] to Mrs. Lee.

February 20

[Her's Courtenay, Baltimore to His Excellency Tho[s] Sim Lee Esq[r]]

I have just now rec[d] your fav[r] of the 17 Curr[t] Whereby I perceive your Inability of complying with my first terms for the Cloths & Stockings. However in Order to shew you how much I wish to Contribute to the General good, that the troops may be cloath'd, I shall propose further to take in payment Twenty Shillings Specie for Every hundred pound curr[t] money. Which the goods may Amount to Agreeable to the prices w[h] I furnished you with some time ago; or as much of the circulating Bills of Credit, as Will purchase such specie and that payable the first day of May next ensuing, Which is going as far as the Nature of my finances will reasonably Justifie me in; you will please observe that the Common mode of settling Ex[a] for the sale of goods is agreeable to the above say 100 for 1 or 1 for 100, I shall be happy therefore in giving my assistance to forward the Service & if these my terms are accepted you will please favour me with a line & I shall make up the goods ready for your receiving them; & stop any further Sale of them, untill I hear from you,

February 20
Red Book
No. 8
Letter 51

[Sam Huntington, President, Philadelphia, to His Excellency, The Governor.]

Your Excellency will receive enclosed a resolve of this day relative to compleating the quotas of troops for the Southern Army and furnishing them with the necessary supplies.

February 20
[Indorsed "granted"]

[Leigh Masters, Baltimore To The Hon[ble] Excellence, (the Gover[r] & the Council]

I hope Your Honors will excuse me giving you this trouble to beg you will permit me to return to New Providence. I find my Health is affected by my stay here haveing been much indisposed this last week for I plainly perceive both my strength & Flesh decrease; therefore I fear my longer detention may prove fatal; besides I hear there is an Act to oblige all British Subjects to return before March 1782 for as yet I have not been able to get a sight of the Act, if this is the case I fear my Detention may be attended with the utmost Inconvenience to me by preventing me from returning by y[e] time appointed, as sometimes Vessels meet with such bad weather in y[e] Winter & Spring as oblige them to go to West Indian Islands. This emboldens me to beg Your Honours will take my Case into consideration & give me permission to return.

[Joshua Johnson, Nantes, 10th October 1780 to His Excellency Thomas Sim Lee, Esqr.]
(Pr the Lady Lee, Capt. Dashiel)

February 20
Red Book
No. 29
Letter 36

I am extremely sorry to inform you that I have not been able to succeed to the Commission the State of Maryland honored me with on the receipt of those papers I made application to his Excellency Benjamin Franklin for his assistance & support he gave me fair promises but before I had obtained the Loan similar application was made him by the agent of the other States & which caused this alteration in his Sentiments that every loan obtained on public account ought to be on account of Congress Since then he has set his face against those negotiations & which has cuffled my most Sanguine expectations my particular Friend Edmund Jennings Esqr then resided at Paris & did me the Honor to negotiate much of this Business he will at any time Convince your Excellency & the Honble Committee that our facture was not through negligence By the Conveyance I forward you a Letter from Dr Franklin on the Subject of the Maryland Funds in England his Letter will shew you the State of that business & which makes it needless for me to enlarge. I am much indebted to your & the States of Delegates friendship & good opinion in nominating me one of the six to be approved by Dr Franklin for the Sales & application of your Funds in England at present, can see no prospect of Being needfull in that part but when anything in which I can serve the state present itself I shall esteem it the highest honor to receive their Commands. I beg leave to tender your Excellency my best Services

Nantes 20 Feby '81

The foregoing is a Copy of my last which now confirm & not having heard from you since leaves me verv little to communicate to you. The Trustees in England continue to Protest the Bills drawn by virtue of an Act of your State on them, when at the same time Mr Osgood Hanbury has paid those drawn on him as Trustee to the Free school, I do not know the exact situation of the latter Funds but should suppose that they are pretty near similar. In respect to Public matters I can give you nothing pleasing on that Score, it is reported here that the British Fleet is out while that of the French remains in their Ports. I am also informed that a Reinforcement of Ten thousand Men have Embarked for New York [damaged] English are determined at all events to carry on the War with America. The Dutch are striving hard to accomodate matters with the British & I am fearfull that they will do it & leave us to fight out the Battle. I will do myself the honor to drop you a Line whenever I have anything particularly interesting to the United States

February 20 [Indorsed, "Nol. Pros. granted 22d Feby 1781 on Cond^{n} that he enlistes during the War"]

[Geo: Lindenberger, Baltimore town, to His Excellency Thomas Sim Lee]

I have the Honour to Inform your Excellency that a Certain frenchmen named Desermeau was brought before me, on suspition of feloneously taking, Steahling, and carrying away Two Great Coats, the property off Levy james and Gardrill of Baltimore town; on Examination, The above named frenchmen pleat Gilty, but said it was enother person whose name he knew not took the Coats, and gave him, Confessant, one, and as it was late in the Night, and Cold, and they both hath been in Liquor, they carrid off s^{d} Coats, with Intent to come back next morning deliver the Coats, and pay for the Liquor they hath in the same house as it was a Tavern upon which Confession I Comitted him said Desermeau, and as he has made Application To inlist in the American Army during the Warr, I have tought proper, to acquaint your Exc^{y} therewith, and as the Owners have their property restored to them already, I make no doubt, you will grant him a Nolle pross.

February 21 Red Book No. 30 Letter 125

[H. Hollingsworth, Head of Elk, to His Excellency Thomas Sim Lee in Council.]

And please your Excellency & Honours By Capt. James Chambers of whom I received fifty six Barrels of Flour on Account of the State I inclos'd to your Excellency and Honours a Return of all the Flour and Bread pass'd through this Post on public Account, except what was Purchased by Messrs Ewing, Wedderstrand, the Commissioners of this County, and that sent by the Commissioners of Kent by way of Duck Creek & Appaquinnimy, (which has not come to my knowledge) but least that Return should not have come to hand in time, I have sent a duplicate by Giles, a copy of which is sent to the Honourable Board of war as ꝑ your Orders, there is about two hundred Barrels of Bread yet on hand, which I shall enter and report in the next months Returns, being desirous of closing the present for the Year 1780, before a supply of Provisions comes in on the new sistem; And as the service requires an early exertion on the part of the Staff, to procure Supplies for the Army for the Ensuing Campain.

I shall be much obliged to your Excellency and Honours for the Law, by which I am appointed, and your particular Directions and Instructions thereon, also for the papers letters &^{ca} left in your chamber by Mr Judge Hanson with your Excellency and Honours Comment on his opinion relative to me, with anything you may please to Express on the Subject, this I am emboldened to solicite as I am shortly to attend in Philadelphia with the Accounts which those papers relate to, in order to complete a settlement, (the present being the most convenient opportunity that may offer for some time) (will thank you to send them by Jiles)

[Rd. Hooe, Alex[a], to Gov. Lee.]

February 21
Red Book
No. 28
Letter 40

Yesterday Morning we had the agreeable report of a french fleet arriving in Hampton road—afterwards we had the mortification to hear it was a British fleet & what favor'd that disagreeable account was an express from the Governor about 3 o'Clock in the afternoon ordering ¼[th] of the Militia of this County to be Marched instantly to Williamsburgh without assigning any cause. However this days Post clears up our fears & doubts by handing us the agreeable intelligence contain'd in the Papers w[ch] I have the Honor to enclose Your Excellency.

These Papers might perhaps have reached Annapolis Tomorrow but the News is so very interesting & important that I conceive it to be my indispensable Duty to forward it to you by express. I have the pleasure to add that by information brought by two Gent from the Southward the Militia of this State are turning out with uncommon alacrity. Those of our County meet Tomorrow and from the present Spirit, I am of opinion the whole instead ¼ might be Marched as Volunteers if that number had been demanded. The Gent above mention'd tell us 'tis the prevailing opinion that Cornwallis cannot come much farther forward & that both he and Arnold must with their Armies fall into our hands.

Virginia has now an opportunity and I trust there is still virtue and Spirit enough in her to Stroke a happy stroke & in favor of all confederated America. That I may shortly be able to hand you a still more pleasing account of this Business is Sir, the most Ardent wish of Your Excellency's most ob[t] Serv[t]

The Travellers above mention'd say there is 4 Ships of the Line & 6 frigates

[James Mercer, St. James's, to Col. Robert F. Hooe, Alexandria. (By Post)]

February 20
Red Book
No. 28
Letter 45

The inclosed hand Bill arrived here yesterday noon and with it such a variety of accounts that I thought it adviseable to decline sending you a special messenger there, hoping that this Days Post private Letters, or Travellers might enable me to give you such a Detail as might authorize the executive of Maryland to act upon. It is now one o'Clock & I am confident that I am now master of the best Intelligence to be had & such as I can venture to relate as fact—to wit—Lord Cornwallis is at the Moravian Town in North Carolina (about 25 miles from the Virginia Line) his force about 2500. General Green arrivd on the 10th at Guilford Court house in North Carolina (about 60 miles S° East of Hillsborough where he was joined by General Morgan, the number of General Greens Army not mentioned but said to be 2700 men. It is certain that Green was retreating his Reasons so political that we are not to supose him in danger from his movements he says he will not fight, as he must

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Letter 45

expect immediate & considerable reinforcements shou'd Cornwallis pursue him into Virginia. Lord Cornwallis's first object we may certainly say was with a view to cut off Morgans Retreat after the action at the Cowpens & to recover the bagage & probably the Prisoners—but the great Rains allowed Morgan to get off before Cornwallis cou'd cross a Stream between them—which permitted the Junction with Green as mentioned above & a safe conduct of those Prisoners which with all others are far advanced into Virginia destined for the other side of the blue Ridge. I have the great pleasure to assure you that the Intelligence of the arrival of General Provost in Cape Fear River is premature, we now certainly know that that Fleet was from Chas Town, with 450 Troops, their object suposed to be some Stores out far distant but that party have not done anything & from the number of Transports (71) some now supose that they were intended to act in concert with Cornwallis to influence the Tories & in Case of Cornwallis's disappointment in his pursuit, to assist his retreat that way to Chas Town, but I confess the latter part of these supositions do not accord with my notions, indeed I think it impossible from a knowledge of the Geography of that Country—but be this as it may I cant doubt but it will prove luckey to the United States that Cornwallis has ventured so far, & the more he advances the worse, indeed if he penetrates Virginia, he will meet the fate of Burgoyne—as our Counties there are powerfull in arms & determined whigs—our Executive has allready taken the most effectual means to push these men into immediate Service, by exempting from the present Drafts for the Continental Army—all who will turn out on this occasion. If they do so, (which I cant doubt) I expect to hand you the good news of his Captivity in my next.

As to Arnold Certain it is that a French Fleet arrived this day For night in Hampton Road—the best Intelligence says this fleet consists of a 64 & 2 frigates—it is certain Arnold had forewarning of their intending here & he has drawn up all his Fleet in Elizabeth River above the Fort, we can't yet say what may be affected by this Naval assistance—but we may hope for something good as in consequence of a Conferrence between the French Admiral & Baron Stueben—all our forces on the north side of James River are ordered over to the Portsmouth side—we have in Arms at that place about five thousand men—among them many Rifle men—very proper for Arnold or Cornwallis & that Countrey with the present Naval assistance, will allow of our acting ag^t^ either (should their Junction be attempted) with great advantages & little risque I have but to add, that the recent arrival of General Weedon who left Richmond on Sunday, has induced me to reject many Reports well told here, & to hand you the foregoing as Fact.

[Jas. Calhoun, Baltimore, to Gov. Lee] February 22 at night

Inclosed is Extract of Lt Col^o Howards Letter to me which he seems to have wrote in a hurry and is not so particular as I could wish but it serves to inform us where the armies are. Guilford Court-house is about 50 Miles from Hilsborough on the road to Salsbury. Col^o Howard has also wrote to Mr Lux perhaps more particular but as I am just got to Town have not seen that letter if it contains anything material shall do myself the honor to communicate it to your Excellency ꝑ first oppertunity

Guilford Court House Feb. 10th 1781

Lord Cornwallis has followed us close as far as this place (200 Miles) where we joined Genl Greenes Army. His Lordship has been disappointed in one object which was the recovery of the Prisoners who are now safe in Virginia. He has crossed the Yadkin. I wish we were stronger than we are. A number of the Militia turns out but they cant be depended on as they come and go when they please Marian has penetrated South Carolina as far as Dorchester within 20 Miles of Charles Town and taken some Prisoners and destroyed a great many stores. I still retain my command in the Light Infantry which Corps has been reinforced with Lt Col. Lee's Legion and about 80 Riflemen. Col^o Williams commands it during the illness of Genl Morgan

[Nath'l Ramsey, Annapolis to the Council.] February 22 Red Book No. 32 Letter 54

Since my arrival at this place I learn that by the resignation of Mr Pecca, [Paca] it is become necessary to appoint some other person to act as a commissioner for the confiscated estates. It is with the greatest deffidence that I presume to offer my service in an office of so much importance, and can only say, that should I be honored with the appointment, I will make it my study to deserve it.

I am at present in a particular manner induced to make this application inasmuch as some two officers of my rank must now retire, and from the best information I can get, none of the Gentlemen who Command Regiments wish to quit the Service This alone has induced me voluntarily to offer myself as one of the Supernumeries, as I will thereby in all probability, leave in the service a better officer. And being entirely disengaged from every kind of business, I will have it in my power to devote the whole of my time to the duties of the office which I now solicit

[John Smith Brookes to The Honble The Governor & Council] February 22

I wrote you a few days agoe by Mr Tho. Williams, representing the necessity I was under for a supply of Money; some which I have been honoured with your commands of the 20th wherein you order

February 22 me to continue the purchase with assiduity. I am ready to exhaust my inmost means to fullfil your orders, but 'tis impossible to continue the purchase without money—the little credit I had acquired, has already received injury from my inability to comply with my contracts. If you will advert to my acco^{t} you will find me only furnished with 250£, my purchase is nearly 15 thousand pounds of provisions, the whole of which I have purchased for money—you will therefore see the necessity of my being immediately supplyed and pray write me upon what terms I am to purchase, as the Law does not authorize me to receive dead Beef—and that is the only kind of meat now for sale. I am pushing my provision to Geo Town with all haste—twill not be necessary to order Waggons to this place, as my provisions are carted from this to the Eastern Branche, and from thence to Geo Town by Water—Mr Beall Waggons from thence to Frederick

February 23 [Hen. Nicols, Aquila Browne, Art: Emory, Rich. Tilghman, 4th, Queen's Town Commissioners of the Tax for Queen Ann's County To his Excellency the Governor in Council]

Under the Law entitled "An Act to raise supplies for the year Seventeen hundred and Eighty one" We observe that one of the Duties on us by said Law is to adjudge and fix the Value of the new Continental Bills of Credit issued in this State and the new Bills of Credit issued under Acts of Assembly of this State compared with Spanish Dollars at Seven Shillings and six pence each But we are this day informed by the Honb^{le} Wm Hemsley Esqr a Member of the General Assembly, that there is a supplement to said Law whereby the above mentioned monies are since regulated and of course our power Superseded; and though we have just received by Express from your Excellency two Laws the one entitled "An Act relating to the Treble Tax imposed on Nonjurors and absentees" the other entitled "A supplement to the Act for the regulation of the Staple of Tobacco" Yet as we have never received or seen the supplement mentioned by Mr Hemsley as above we are at a Loss to know how to conduct ourselves and therefore request the favour of your Excellency to advise us therein as soon as possible.

February 24
Red Book
No. 5
Letter 51

[Daniel Carroll, Philadelphia, to Gov. Lee.]

Y^{r} favor by Co^{l} Livingston with 2 packets came to hand this morning. I shall endeavour to execute y^{r} orders in a few days. We are under a considerable degree of anxiety about the state of affairs in North Carolina. The latest intelligence from General Greens army was on the 9th instant, he was then at or about Guildford Court House. Cornwallis at Shallow Ford on the Yadkin, distant from our Army 40 Miles & 250 from Charles Town. He had burnt his Waggons & it was expected woud cross the Yadkin that day. The

prisoners taken by Morgan were out of danger of being retaken. He had pick'd up ab^{t} 100 more since the action. This movement of Cornwallis's esteemed exceeding rash by the Southern Gentlemen here but I believe if he advances General Green will be forc'd to evacuate North Carolina, or to engage on very unequal terms. Col. Marian has distroyed some of the Enemies Magazines at Wandow Landing, & Dorchester, within 20 Miles of Charles Town, & taken 30 British prisoners besides some officers. I shall add no more on this Subject as it is probable before this reaches you, some important events have been communicated to you from that quarter. The troops Landed at Cape Fear, consist of a detachment from Charles Town, & have taken possession of Wilmington, ab^{t} 500 February 24 Red Book No. 5 Letter 51

The confederation will be subscribed (Mr Hanson being here) on next Thursday & Congress having postpond it to that day in order to announce it properly

[E. Hall, Lt 1st Mary'd Regt, Mt Welcome Cecil County to Gov. Lee] February 24

I take the liberty of enclosing your excellency a letter for Mrs Marbury from her unfortunate husband who is still a prisoner with the enemy on Long Island, it came under cover to me with directions from Col. Marbury to forward it by way of Annapolis to some gentlemen there that woud procure it an immediate conveyance, and having heard the Col^{l} speak in a manner that gave me reason to believe he was acquainted with your excellency induces me to take this liberty.

The peculiarly disagreeable situation of this unfortunate gentleman is truly distressing as the Continent having no officer in their possession that wou'd apply to him in an exchange in point of rank he humbly conceives that your excellency and council might fall upon some method to enlarge him, one in particular he mentioned to me previous to my exchange Viz. That if the State had not officers in their immediate possession that might exchange him by composition, he apprehends they might be borrowed from a neighboring or the United States. I hope your Excellency will pardon me for this intrusion, the very great friendship & esteem which I have for Col. Marbury obliges me to try every method that in my opinion might tend to his speedy enlargement.

[Thos. Smyth, Eastern Neck, Kent County, to Gov. Lee.] (Via Rock Hall) February 24 Red Book No. 27 Letter 25

Having been informed that this State had determined to fitt out immediately some armed Vessels for the defence & protection of the Trade of this Bay, I beg leave to make your Excell^{cy} an offer of a fine large Ship which I have on the Stocks at my Shipyard on Langford bay, she was intended for a compleat 20 Gun Ship and will I

February 24
Red Book
No. 27
Letter 25

think answer the intention fully she is now so forward that she might be finished in all next Month, and has the Appearance of an exceeding fast Sailor her Dimensions are about 72 feet by the Keel strait rabbit 26 feet by the beam 12 feet 4 Inches in the Hold & 4 feet waist amidship, she is pierced for 22 Guns, tho intended to carry only 20 on her main Deck

If your Excell^{cy} & Council should think this Ship woud answer the purpose for which Vessels are wanted I woud dispose of her on moderate terms she is stout strong & well built and will bear the examination of any who are Judges of Vessels

Be pleased so to acquaint me with your Determination in matter as early as you can and any answer that may be necessary thereto shall be immediately returned

February 25
Red Book
No. 27
Letter 53

[Stephen Steward, West River, to the Hon^{l} Governor & Council]

Honnebel Gentelmen this will be Handed to you by Mr Selle Tucker Who is the father to James Tucker Mast. of the Brig Katy and now a Prisoner on board of one of the Ennemys Ships of War at Portsmouth I hope your Honors have Considerd the matter to have him Exchangd for the Mate of the Katy now lying In Jale at Baltimore town I think thare is now a flag of truce lying at baltimore Mr Masters

February 26
Red Book
No. 8
Letter 52
[Indorsed "The enclosed Resolves sent to Col^{o} Forrest by Mr Stoddart"]

[Sam. Huntington, President, Philadelphia, to Gov. Lee.]

Your Excellency will receive enclosed the Extract of a resolve of the 23^{d} Instant, requesting the State of Maryland to advance to Lt Colonel Forrest, an Account of the United States a Sum equal to seven years half pay of a Lieut Colonel, in Lieu of the half pay he might otherwise have been entitled to during his natural Life.

Upon the resignation of this Officer, Congress have thought proper, in Consideration of his past Services, & particular Misfortune of the Loss of a Limb in the public Service, to grant him the Benefit & Emoluments contained in the enclosed resolution

February 26
Brown Book
No. 2
Letter 87
[Copy]

[W. Smallwood, Charles County, to Gov. Lee.]

Yesterday I received a letter from Baron Steuben inclosing a copy of one from Genl Green to him, copies of which you have inclosed, these I have thought necessary to transmit, that you might see the expediency of ordering the most speedy and vigorous exertions to be adopted in raising and forwarding the Troops to be levied in this State to fill our Quota.

The matter has now become serious and alarming the Carolina's if not subjugated are over Run. Our Stores and resources in that Quarter much exhausted indeed ere this probably in the Enemy's possession and unless Virginia & Maryland emerge from their

Lethargy & try the most strenuous Efforts to endeavour to check the Progress of the Enemy the war must be brought into our Bowells immediately—you will therefore see the necessity of anticipating this event by ordering the men to be raised and forwarded with all possible dispatch

February 26
Brown Book No. 2
Letter 87
[Copy]

You will observe General Green's letter without Date or place the Baron supposes him at Charlotte, but I should rather think him further on his Retreat and Cornwallis advanced least to Salisbury or the Moravian Town which must place him in a Position above General Green to the Westward & of course upon a direct line nearer the Frontiers of Virginia.

[Steuben, Maj. Gen'l, Richmond, to Major Gen. Smallwood.]

February 12
Brown Book No. 2
Letter 75
[Copy]

Dear General Soon after you left this State, the Enemy took post at Portsmouth where they have remained very quietly ever since. A sufficient number of Militia are collected to prevent their making incursions into the Country, but not to attempt any thing against them while they remain where they are. With respect to the Southern Army this State is perfectly Lethargic, not a man is yet raised on the new plan, & it has been with the greatest pains that about 400 men now at Chesterfield Court H° have been tolerably clothed & I hope will be ready to march by the 20th inst

Genl Greenes situation notwithstanding his late successes is very disagreeable & calls for the immediate exertions of this state of Maryland I must beg you My dear General to push your state to raise & send on a reinforcement without delay to the Southern Army.

By the enclosed you will perceive that something must be done without loss of time, Genl Greene in the hurry of business forgot to date his letter but I suppose he must be somewhere near Charlotte

[Nat. Greene to Gen. Steuben.]

Brown Book No. 2
Letter 75
[Copy]

Since I wrote you by Major Giles Lord Cornwallis has been constantly in pursuit of Genl Morgan & has burnt his Waggons & equip'd his army in such a manner as to move with the greatest facility his force is about 2500 men. Gen. Morgan by forced marches kept out of the reach of his Lordship & has got off his Prisoners in safety, but it was partly owing to the happy intervention of a great storm which raised the Catabaw so high that the Enemy could not cross, During which time the Prisoners were pushed on over the Yadkin & an on their march for Virga

The moment I got intelligence that the Enemy were penetrating the Country, I put the Army in motion upon the Pedee & left it under the command of Genl Huger & cross'd the country with a small Escort in order to collect the Militia & make head against the Enemy until we could make a junction of our forces, we made the

Brown Book No. 2 Letter 75

necessary dispositions to prevent the Enemy from crossing the Catabaw but so few Militia came in & the fords were so numerous it was impossible to effect it—they cross'd at McCowan ford where Gen[l] Davidson was Posted with the greatest part of the Militia. The opposition was inconsiderable owing to the General's being kill'd, as it is said in the begining of the Action, The greatest part of the Militia were dispersed soon after the Enemy cross'd nor can I hear of their collecting since in any considerable numbers. I waited on one of the plans of Rendezvous that night after the Enemy cross'd until past 12 o'Clock & not a man came to our assistance—we are now endeavouring to form a junction of our Continental troops at this place, the Enemy were within about twenty five miles of us last night. We have hitherto removed all the stores out of the Enemy's way, but if they pursue us & we are not able to make an effectual stand, which their is little prospect of, unless the Militia will come to our aid we shall lose our stores & what serves to render our situation still more distressing is, I have just got intelligence that the fleet that left Virg[a] is arrived at Wilmington & that the forces have landed there.

The Southern States are in such a defenceless condition that they must fall under the dominion of the Enemy, unless reinforcements are immediately sent from the northward. You know I have always considered the incursions, in Virginia as of no consequence if we could prevent their penetrating this way. Pray send us all the men you can equip.

In moving the stores from Salisbury I found upwards of 1700 stand of Continental Arms in one store kept for the use of the militia in the most miserable order you can imagine. Such destruction of Public Stores is enough to ruin a nation these are some of the happy effects of defending the Country with Militia from which good Lord deliver us!

Since my last Col Lee has surprised George town, he writes me that many were kill'd but few taken, one field Officer was kill'd & several made Prisoners you shall have the particulars when I have more time to relate them

If the Enemy distress us in this State I am not without hopes of giving them trouble in their rear & shall take measures for that purpose with Gen[l] Sumpter, Marion & Pickens. O! that we had in the field, as Harry the 5th said some few of the many thousands that are idle at home.

[David Poe, Baltimore, to Gov. Lee.]

February 27 Red Book No. 28 Letter 91

I am satisfied that before this Time your Excellency has had information, that there has been some unnecessary Delays, in forwarding the Dispatches by the Line of Express's. I think it my duty to inform your Excellency, that matters has been of late Conducted

by some Concerned in a manner, that had it been done by me—I should have been Truly ashamed. The Dispatches that there was such Particular Instructions from his Excellency, and the Quarter Master General, to Ride by Day and Night with—was Received at Bush Town the 24th Inst. at 55 minutes Past 9 oClock A. M. and did not Arrive here until 35 minutes Past 5 o'Clock in the Evening. Occasioned by the Letters being Delivered to a Person who lives in this Town—having a Bad Horse, and from all Circumstances not well attached to the Liberties of America. The Dispatches sent on yesterday, was brought by a Person Living at Fell's Point, and was sent up to me by a Boy on Horse back, who Droped the greatest part of them on the way, and there left them, until some Gentlemen picked them up, it being uncertain whether they were all found or not. I hope that you will have the Line Strictly Inspected, so that the Trusty Servants of the Public may be known from others more Remiss, in their Duty. For further Particulars I would beg to Refer you to General Gist, who will be Down in a Day or Two, and was present when the Letters was brought to me yesterday by one of the Gentlemen that Picked them off the street. February 27 Red Book No. 28 Letter 91

[Jos^a Beall, Lieut, Prince G^s C^ty, to His Excell^y Thomas Simm Lee Esqr] February 27

I shuld be glad to know who is appointed to receive the recruits in this County, I have past two who are plagueing the people who engaged them for their Bounty and Accomodations, and the people who has Engaged are as great plagues to me—beg you^d let me know who is to take charge of them that I may deliver them up

[Jas. Calhoun, Baltimore to the Gov. & Council] February 27

Inclosed is copy of a letter I this day received from Col^o Hollingsworth respecting a supply of Provisions. There is none at this Post except a quantity of Bread which I have desired Mr Donnellon to deliver the Continental Store keeper that he may forward it on this occasion. As to meat it has been with difficulty that I have been able to supply a sufficiency to Issue at this Post for some time past and am afraid there has not been any paid into the County Commissaries as yet

[M. Gist, Baltimore, to Gov. Lee.] February 27 Brown Book No. 3 Letter 24

I am favor'd with your Letter of the 26th Inst. previous to which, an Express past through this place with dispatches for Your Excellency. In consequence of the information receiv'd p this Express there appear'd an immediate necessity for at least 1200 Tons of Shipping to be taken up and held in readiness to embark the Troops &c. at the Head of Elk; and the particular exigence of the case induc'd me to order the Commanding Officer at the Fort to prevent all Ves-

February 27
Brown Book
No. 3
Letter 24

sels sailing from this port, 'till your pleasure shoud be known on the occasion which I beg your Excellency will please to communicate to me as early as possible

The Soldiers you request shall be put in readiness as far as in my power to proceed with the above Vessels, but the design cannot be carried into execution without your assistance as many of them are in extreme want of Clothing, and I fear the state of your Stores at Annapolis will prove inadequate to their immediate wants.

I shall also want your Order on the Commissary of Military Stores at this place for such Arms and Accoutrements as may be wanting to equip them for Action

February 27

[Chas Gr Griffith, Mony County to His Excellency Thomas Sim Lee]

Your Excellency will herewith Receive my Commission as Leut of Montgommerry County It Being intirely out of my power to act as such any longer—without further Injuries to my own private affairs—I shall waite on Coll Murdoch Immediately whome is the Senr officer Here—and Deliver safe into his Custody—your Last package—Containing the acts of Assembly To procure Recruits—as also all other necessary papers To Inable him to proceed in Classing the Inhabitants of this County To make good our Quota—your Excellency and Honourable Council—I doubt not—from The foregoing Reason will Readily Except my Commission—I can assure you there is no person more Zealously attached to his Countrys cause then I am and am bold to say—I have never omitted Exerting Every nerve in my power—to Carry the laws of this state To the Best of my knowledge fully into Execution—Since the Contest with our Unnatural Emmissarys I am still Ready when Ever called on in any other Capacity—after Closing the Business of last year—or sooner if Required—to Confront the Ennimy among The Foremost.

Chas Gr Griffith

February 27
Red Book
No. 32
Letter 36

[Jas Hamilton, Leonards farm near Frederick's Town, to H. E. Governor Lee]

From a note I received just now from Mr Wall—he informs me that he is confined and to be sent to Anapolis, there tried for carrying Letters from Virginia here, which if no other than those sent me, cannot—respecting their contents affect him.

Mr Wall says there was five, it may be so I recollect only the enclosed of Mr Clarke's which I preserved as it was on Business, the others were as it always is my practice destroyed as soon as answer'd. They were as follows one from Lieut. Coll Lentz. on the Germans act one from Lt Coll Lind, mentioning the moving of the above Troops & that the remainder of the British were likewise order'd to move; But that on his application to Coll Wood they were to remain 3 were from Mr Weir Surgeon Genl giving an account of the Sick

And it is very probable one from Col[l] de Mingen, who Commands the Brunswick Troops & if so, must I think by the date be the enclosed Letter & which fortunately has escaped the flames by being in L[t] Col[l] Hill's posession. February 27 Red Book No. 32 Letter 36

To convince your Excellency of the openness of our correspondence, I have enclosed a latter Letter of L[t] Co[l] Lentz, which mentions his writing by M[r] Wall, the business from it you may well imagine.

I wish it returned, as it is from a Person who has now the Command of the German Troops—& is the first of a good many Letters I shall receive on many Matters & must be preserved on that acc[t]

If anything further is required to gain this poor Devil his liberty or ease the minds of those that are alarmed on this Subject, I will do it with pleasure, not only from the principles of justice & humanity; but from gratitude, for the tiresome hours this man help'd us to pass over in the wilds of Virginia, by acting on a little Theatre the officers erected at the Barracks I have but to add, which I am certain is unnecessary to your Excellency, that I am under Parole

P. S. We have received but two Days meat since my last Letter

[H. Hollingsworth, Head of Elk to Jas. Calhoun, Baltimore] February 27

This comes to inform you that Expect about fifteen hundred Troops here in the course of three or four days from this date are intirely out of Flour and Flesh provisions both Salt and fresh must therefore intreat that you send me all you possibly can. The Troops will want at least thirty days provisions to be laid in at this place and all I have is about 250 B[ls] Bread, as the Troops will want Vessels to transport them to the Southward and as Col. Yates will be applying for them at your Post which will furnish a good oppertunity to forward any provisions you may have to me. Pray dont fail us on this occasion as my whole dependance is on you the several County Commissaries having not got properly fixed to collect provisions in the Spesifick way.

Ile thank you to give me the earliest information in your power of the quantity of each species of Provisions you can furnish this will enable me to know what I shall want which must be had at some rate or other it may not be amiss for you to apply to his Excellency the Governor in Council as that lays in your district perhaps some provisions may be had there.

[Baruch Williams, Head of Elk to Gov. and Council] February 27

In consequence of information this day received from Col[o] Hollingsworth of a Number of Troops expected at the Head of Elk, in a few days I this moment set out with an intention of supplying this place with as much Provision of the Meat kind as lays in my power, he intimates to me that with respect to flour he is provided

February 27 with, if any disappointment should happen on his part in that Article I am in hopes that it will lay in my power to Comply therewith. As to Difficulties I labour under many for the want of that proper instruction which persons generally are who are appointed to Offices that they are not very Conversant in—but are in hopes with due attention and Industry I shall yet make my services acceptable. I wrote you from this place some time ago informing you of my necessities, requesting an order on the Collector of this County for such a sum as would have Enabled me to Comply with my orders, but through some miscarriage I presume it did not reach you.

I now shall [be] making what purchases which may lay in my power & I hope I shall be Justified by Yourself & Council as I have not lately received orders for this Especial purpose. Provisions are high, Money Scarce, I shall do all that lays in my power with the Assistance of Col° Hollingsworth who has gave all the aide that he could possably do.

February 27 [Don'l Yeates, D. Q. M., Elk, to the Governor and Council]

The bearer Mr Wright a Gent^n^ who does bussiness with me in the Quarter Masters department, waits on you to communicate some measures of Public concern, he will produce to you Colonel Pickerings instructions to me, Annapolis I apprehend is the properest place to procure the express Boat to go of with the letters, there is no Craft here suitable, all the Craft that can be procured and sent here for the reception of troops I presume will be wanted, I hope to meet your aid and Authority in geting the Vessels at your place & Baltimore Town, I am badly of in not haveing provisions necessary on this movement of troops, Col° Hollingsworth has wrote you on the occasion, you know my situation that of not being supplied with money, as many teams will be wanted for the space of two or three days in geting the heavy Cannon and Stores suddenly across from Xteen, it will require the sanction of the Civil Authority to assist me in procuring them your Advice and Assistance in this circumstance will be much acknowledged.

February 26 1 o'clock in the morning [Tim. Pickering, Q. M. G'l, Philadelphia to Donaldson Yeates Esqr, D. Q. M.]

You will have been informed of the arrival of a detachment of Ships in the Chesapeak from the fleet of our Allies at Rhode Island, and their object will at once seem to you—the Capture of Arnold & the troops & Vessells under his command. To Cooperate with those Ships a detachment of American troops, amounting to fifteen hundred men, are now on their march from the main Army; and a letter from the Marquis de la Fayette, who commands them, received this moment, informs me that this Detachment of troops will be at the Head of Elk by the third or fourth of March at farthest.

The inclos'd letters one to Baron Stueben, the other to the Commanding officers of the French Ships, in your bay, came to me by the same express; and agreeably to the Marquis's desire, I request you will forward them without the least delay, for it may be of the highest consequence that those Officers shou'd know immediately of the march of the Marquis, with his Detachment, If you have it in your power, as I doubt not you have, it will, as the Marquis suggest, be best to forward the two Letters by a fast Sailing boat (or the best you have) directly down the bay, Otherwise dispatch them immediately by Land, I request also that with as much Speed as possible you will provide a second Dispatch boat that shall be ready to receive and carry any further communication from the Marquis or the commander in Chief. February 26 1 o'clock in the morning

The Detachment, will take from this City, six field pieces and howitzers about fourteen pieces of cannon 18 & 24 Pounders with their shot shells, powder & implements what quantity of Shipping will be requisite for the artillery I cannot determine immediately.

For the 1500 Troops with their light baggage Flints and 700 Axes and Intrenching tools you I will easily judge how many tons of shipping will be Requisite Each piece of artillery with its Carriage may be estimated I believe at from three tons to three tons & halfe, but as they have travelling Carriages they will take up a great deal of room. The Shot shells & powder, may perhaps be reckoned at about Sixty or Seventy tons. On this information I must in the most urgent manner request you to provide the number of Vessels necessary and it will be better to have too many than too few—to transport the troops, with their Baggage Artillery &ca as above mentioned, and have the whole ready at the Head of Elk, or as near it as the water will permit, by the third day of march next

This time may be short, for so considerable a preparation, and will require the greater diligence in the execution of these orders. The Craft usually employed in the Bay, I suppose may be easily procured. The shipping you shall find necessary in addition to these, you can procure at Baltimore The owners of Vessells Surely will not hesitate to let them go on this service and if you find it necessary to give energy to the business you may inform them of the object of this expedition which I persuade myself will be sufficient to command every vessel within such distances as to be of use in this important occasion, you may agree to an indemnification to the owners for any Vessel that shall be lost in this service.

The marquis desires that thirty days provisions may be ready and transported with the troops down the bay I am not informed what provisions there are at the head of Elk if not enough to serve the detatchment thirty days, some may be sent from hence particularly salted provisions unless you can make up the Quantity demanded at

February 26 1 o'clock in the morning

Baltimore you will inform me by the return of this express I think you have ovens at Elk, it will be of great consequence to have as much hard bread baked as will serve the detatchment thirty days please to inform me if this can be done you will now see the extent and importance of the business hereby committed to your management and thereto proportion your exertions, let me intreat you to give it your whole attention, and not rest till every necessary provision is made, and by the third of March as before mentioned In addition to the above it will be necessary for you to provide teams and have them at Christiana bridge by the second of March twelve four horse teams will I Judge be sufficient to take the tents and baggage of the troops from thence to the Head of Elk besides these a large number of teams will be required to Transport Shott Shells, powder and implements before mentioned these articles I expect will be sent from hence to Christiana bridge in the course of three or four days.

A few cords of wood should be provided at Christiana bridge for such of the officers and troops as may take Quarters in the houses there, tho I rather suppose they will march to the nearest woods at the head of Elk it will be requisite to provide twenty cords of wood and have it cut ready to put on board the Vessels.

You will take care to provide and fill water carts for each Vessel Sufficient for their crews and the troops on board, making large Allowances, for the length of time, such a fleet will be going down the Bay and for contrary winds. Tho I said above that to facilitate the Execution of these orders, you might mention the object of the expedition yet I would not have the particular contents of this Letter divulged except perhaps in Confidence to the person, shou'd it so happen, whom you may consult, in estimating the tons of Shipping requisite for service. Once more suffer me, intreat that nothing depending in you may be omitted, which can either defeat or Retard this expedition

February 28

[Jno. Dorsey & Co., Annapolis, to the Governor and Council]

We will Charter the Schooner Nautilus to the State to go as a Flag to New York to Carry a Cargo of Corn and some Flour for the freight of one third of the Sales to be paid in N. York, unless some flour be sent and Permission obtained to invest the freight in such goods as may be Permitted and to bring them an Account of the Owners of the Vessell the Freight of one third cannot be Accepted. We will bring any goods for the State without any Freight not Exceeding one Half of the Burthen of the schooner. We will purchase the corn on being furnished with the Money and we will procure the flour and advance the money on the usual Commissions. If its Required the Vessell shall Load in Patuxent

[George Murdock, Fred Town, to Governor Lee.] February 28

I have your Excellencys fav^r of this 20th Instant and am now to inform that Flesh provision is still scarce, all that I have been able to collect lately, has been little more than sufficient for the Guard, The Convention Troops within Ten or Twelve days past have drawn for about Two days only, and upon the whole I believe they are 20 or 25 days deficient in meat.

I have sent to Prince Georges for the Pork & hope it will be here this day. The Seventy Bullock mentioned in a former letter was disposed of before my Express got to the person that own'd them. I am much in want of money. If there is any in the Treasury be pleased to send me a sum by Mr Beatty. Mr Edelen can now give me but little assistance

[Lewis Duvall to Jas. Brice, Esqr.] [February]

Observing the States horses to be very poor and thinking the States might be willing to put out some To worke for their feed—I take the Liberty to inform you that I would take 2 of them—which I would feed well and use gently as I have a great Plenty of Provender or I would sell the State 6 or 8 Cart Loads of oat Straw which is very good and all most Equal to hay.

[Petition of Wm Gordon To his Excellency the Governour and the Honourable the Council of the State of Maryland] [February]

Sheweth that your Petitioner haveing lived in this City for the space of twenty two years and as he hopes behaved himself in a becomeing Manner before and since the Revolusion of these States—And as he is now destitute of Supporting his family for want of Imployment—and as your Late Messenger is now dead—Humbly hopes your Excellency & Honours will (if you approve of his late Conduct which he will be willing at all times to Amend) Appoint him Messenger to your Excellency & Honours in the Room of the deceased

[John Smith Brookes to The Honble The Governor & Council] March 1

I have your favour last week by Mr Lansdale, and Lament you had it not in your power to furnish me with the Money I so earnestly requested, and stood so much in need off. You order me to continue the purchase with assiduity—tis impossible to purchase without money, and I am not able to buy a single flower Barrel, or defray the Expences for transporting the provisions. I am at a loss to judge from what cause, but few men chose to credit the publick, a preferance is given to almost any individual. I have therefore to pray, you will consider my necessity and contrive me a supply of cash by the return of Mr Lansdale

March 1 [Jas. Calhoun, Baltimore, to the Governor and Council.]
(Han^{d} by Col^{o} Ramsey)

I rec^{d} your favor of yesterday, all the Vessel, at this place had been secured by Genl Gist and the Quarter Master before your letter came to hand. The Bread shall be sent forward at least as much as with the quantity Col^{o} Hollingsworth has already at Elk will make up the 600 Barrels, but it will be impossible to send any Salt Meat from this Post there being little or none here. I have wrote Mr Dallam of Harford that if he has any to forward it immediately to Elk.

As the procuring Vessels & carriages from this place is the particular business of the Continental Quarter Master hope the Council will not expect me to do anything in that way as besides the impropriety of my acting in that Department it would be incuring an unnecessary expence to the State and more likely to give offence to the owners of Vessels than if executed by the Officer whose particular duty it is

March 1 [Benj. Cawood, Charles County To Benjamin Harwood, Annapolis]
(fav^{d} by Mr. Latimer)

On the 22^{d} February, I Received your favour of the 9th Same Month, Wherein you were kind enough to Acquaint me of the resolve of the last Session of Assembly, the time Expired before your Letter Came to hand, Notwithstanding I have fully attended to the contents, and have sent you a Considerable payment by the Bearer Mr Rand. B. Latimer who can Assert to you many Good Reasons why my Acc^{t} is not fully Setled on your Books—therefore if my bond is not already put in force; I beg you'll do all in your Power to Prevent it, as you may Depend I shall Exert every Measure to Settle my Acc^{t} Also you may depend on a Large payment in a few days from this.

March 1
Brown Book
No. 7
Letter 69

[Lafayette, Head of Elk, to Gov. Lee.]

I have received your Excellencys Letter of the 5th ins^{t} and for the assurances it contains, beg leave to offer my very respectfull acknowledgements.

If in the course of to-morrow, we can get a sufficiency of Vessels, I intend to embark the Troops immediately, but upon the intelligence we receive of British Privateers being in the Bay, I more than ever feel the want of an armed force for our security.

By a Letter from Baron De Stuvens, I find he was not gone with the Detachment sent to the Southward, that General Officer is now preparing matters for the expedition, and as I expect also to hear from a Naval Officer in the same quarter, I beg leave to request that any dispatch be sent to me with the greatest rapidity.

Having been told, that there was at Baltimore a number of heavy Peices, I could not help thinking that six of the eighteen pounders, with 300 rounds each, might be of service, but from the aversion I feel to give any useless trouble to the state, I would only propose that they be put in readiness, as upon information from below we could better determine their utility. March 1 Brown Book No. 7 Letter 69

[Tim. Pickering, Q. M. G., Philadelphia, to Gov. Lee.] March 1 Red Book No. 28 Letter 90

I imagine you have been apprized that an expedition is on foot, destined against the force under Arnold at Portsmouth, A detachment from the Main army under the command of Major General the Marquis de la Fayette, will arrive at Elk probably by the 3d instant, & if the craft I have ordered should be ready, they will be embarked by the 4th To convoy this fleet down the bay, I have directed my deputy at Elk to endeavour to obtain some of their best armed vessels from the merchants of Baltimore: for from information heretofore received I doubted whether the states of Maryland & Virginia were possessed of armed vessels of sufficient force, & that could be fitted & manned for so sudden an enterprize. To-day however the Marquis has suggested that there are some armed vessels belonging to those states, & desired me to make application for them. I have therefore to request of your Excellency that if your state is possessed of any armed vessels or gallies which can be prepared for service, so as to be useful on this occasion, that they may be fitted and manned with the utmost dispatch They may very useful if they do not arrive till after the operations against the enemy are commenced. As soon as ready I request they may be ordered to follow the Marquis to Portsmouth, & required to obey his commands.

P. S. Salted meat sufficient to last the detachment 30 days will go from hence: but it is likely their force may be increased by the Militia, for whom an additional quantity of provisions will be required. The events of war too are uncertain & the enterprize may not be finished so soon as expected. Give me leave therefore to request your Excellency to cause the State agents to procure without delay, beef, pork or bacon sufficient for 2000 men twenty days, & to have the same brought to convenient landings to be carried to the detachment if called for together with, a proportionable quantity of flour or bread

[Jno Gibson, Talbot Court House, to Governor Lee.] March 2

Your Excellency some time ago had an application made by my neighbour F. Baker at my request for a Nolla Pross., to quash a Preferment against me (then one of the justices of Talbot County) for suffering the County Court to fall in August 1778 as by the Copy inclosed may appear; notwithstanding I attended & did every thing in my power to have the Court called, and repeatedly requested those Gentlemen presented with me to walk into the Court House in order

March 2 to call the Court, which they as often refused, and by which refusal, & neglect only, the Court fell. Nicholas Thomas Esquire as well as others well knows the above facts to be true. Your Excellency therefore, knowing or at least may know the foreman of that Grand jury to be a man of a Suspicious Character, especially in the common Cause, & of course my Enemy, and seeing their inniquitous proceedings against me in this matter, will judge whether I appear as an object worthy your attention or not, If I do, you'll grant the above request which shall be duly acknowledged by your Excellencies

Mo. obed^{t} Humble Servt

Copy Presentment against John Gibson Esqr Talbot County found at September Term 1778 in the General Court for the Eastern Shore to wit

Maryland ss.

We the Grand Inquest for the Body of the Eastern Shore of the State af^{d} do upon our Oaths Present John Gibson, Henry Banning and Howes Goldsborough Justices of Talbot County for not holding Court in the Month of August last

Testes Wm Perry, Foreman

Evidence
Richard Skinner

True Copy
James Earle Clk
G C. E S.

April 3 [Draft] [Thomas Sim Lee, Governor, Annapolis To John Gibson, Talbot Court House]

I rec^{d} your Letter of the 2^{d} March with the Enclosure.

There being a Variety of Opinions entertained with Respect to the Propriety of the Governors remitting Fines ab^{t} Common Law, I some Time past made Application to the Genl Assembly for their Interposition in that and other Matters but Business requiring immediate Dispatch, I imagine prevented their going fully into a Considation of the Subject. Under such Circumstances I do not think myself justifiable in interposing in Cases of this Kind until I am ascertained of the Opinion of the Assembly, and am therefore constrained to decline it in yours

March 2 Brown Book No. 7 Letter 55 [J. Gouvion, Lt. Col. of Engineers, Patuxen River, to Gov. Lee.]

I would take it as a great favour, if your Excellency would send an express to the Marquis, to let him know that the french fleet is yet in the bay, and she is entirely clear of british cruizers, you will excuse the liberty I take, considering that it is only for the publick Service

[Wm McLaughlin to The Governor and Council.] March 2

I have been Inform'd by a Gentleman Just come from Annapolis that my bond as Collector of Baltimore Town; is put in suit. Your Excellency may remember that I had your Particular orders not to Collect any Taxes from The Frenchmen which I stood Charge with, and which is the only thing unsettled of my Acc^t^

When I went last to Annapolis to make a final Settlement with the Treasurer I then told your excellency I had money enough with me to settle the whole, And requested your Excellency's further orders respecting the Frenchmen; I was told that there was no doubt of their getting relieved by the Honble Assembly and that I might be under no Apprehension from the Consequences that might result to me, from my Leaving my Acc^t^ enclosed.

I suppose my Bond's being put in suit must be owing to the Treasure's Ignorance of the above Affair and that his orders were General, However Your excellency has it still in Your power to stop the proceedings Against me, as I intirely Acted Agreeable to your Excellencys orders. I most Humbly Intreat Your Further Instruction in the matter and whether I am to Collect the Frenchmen's Acc^ts^ or not

[S. Huntington, President, Philadelphia, to His Excellency, Governor Lee.] March 2 Red Book No. 8 Letter 54

By the Act of Congress herewith, enclosed your Excellency will be informed, that the Articles of Confederation & perpetual Union between the thirteen United States are formally & finally ratified by all the states.

We are happy to congratulate our Constituents on this important Event, desired by our Friends but dreaded by our Enemies.

[John Voorhees, George Town, to Colo. Henry Hollingsworth] March 2 Red Book No. 30 Letter 113

I received your fav^r^ of yesterday, and I am really unhappy that I can do so little on the present emergent occasion, ten Barrels Beef and pork is all I have collected, and a very gloomy prospect, being destitute of the needfull to purchase with, no collections being yet made, and in a season of the year, that does not afford any considerable quantity of provision, a few beaves on the hoof will be collect in Taxes and what I can purchase on the Credit of the State, shall be sent forward as soon as a Sufficient number can be collected—the provision shall be sent by McLelland who will set of in a day or two. Your letter to the Commissioners, I handed to Mr James Pearce, who is one of the Board.

[Bowly and Stewart, Baltimore, to Gov. Lee] March 3

The Bearer Capt Thomas Johnson is a principal Owner of a new Brigantine at this Post of something upwards of an hundred Tons

March 3 burthen. He has learnt that your Excellency wants to Charter one or two such Vessells to send to New York, and not being personally known to you, solicits our recommendation. We know him to be well attached to the cause of America his native Country—and he is a man of considerable property in this Town; and his Character in all respects very fair.

March 3 [Hercules Courtenay, Baltimore, His Excellency Thos Sim Lee Esqr Govn^r & the Honb^le the Council of Maryland]

Bought of Hercules Courtenay

2 hh^ds Containing Sundry Cloathing &c viz

1 p^s	blue	Cloth	N^o	14.	28½	yds	@ £165 ꝑ	£4702..10.. 0
1 p^s	"	"	"	3.	26½	"	@ 155	4107..10.. 0
1 p^s	"	"	"	3.	29	"	@ 135	3915..—..—
1 p^s	"	"	"	5.	30	"	@ 140	4200..—..—
1 p^s	"	"	"	4.	27	"	@ 142	3834..—..—
1 p^s	"	"	"	2.	31	"	@ 135	4185..—..—
1 p^s	"	"	"	16.	29½	"	@ 175	5162..10..—
1 p^s	"	"	"	10.	30	"	@ 150	4500..—..—
1 p^s	"	"	"	17.	15	"	@ 167..10.	2512..10..—
1 p^s	"	"	"	1.	9½	"	@ 118 ..	1121. .. —
132 pair Ribb'd Stockings							@ 52..10.	7140..—..—
				250 yds.				£45380 curr^y
2 hh^ds With ditto W^h cost 3 ap. specie each								300
							At 100 for 1.....	£45680

The above Sum to be paid in Specie at the Rate of 2 of Specie for every hundred pounds Curr^y W^h will make £456..16..0 in Specie or as much Sirculating Bills of credit as will purchase said sum of £456..16..0 Specie—on the 1st of May next Ensuing

March 3 His Excellency Thos Sim Lee Esqr.

Sir I have the Honour of your fav^r of 1st Ins^t and Agreeable to your orders therein, have packed up the Cloths & Stockings am^t as ꝑ Annexed Bill £456..16..0 Specie & the same are now ready for your further orders for the Delivery.

March 3 Red Book No. 30 Letter 112 [H. Hollingsworth, Head of Elk, to the Governor and Council]

And please your Excellency & Honours Your favour of the 28th February came yesterday to hand, I immediately set out in order to purchase all the fat cattle and other provisions I could meet with and am Just now returned after riding almost two days have been able to purchase one Bulloch only, and one hundred weight of dryed Beef though I have met with fifteen good Bullocks that will weigh from

four to five hundred Each which I have priced and can get them at about 55/ and three pounds hard ꝑ hundred, but the people will not sell one pound without the Cash being paid them on the delivery, nor will they deliver it without, I am so unhappy on the present occasion that I know not what way to Express it, the Troops will be in, in an hour and no meat for them I have made a requisition on the Village, to throw in a part of their household provisions, and set the example myself by weighing out five hundred weight of Bacon and dryed Beeff, have ordered four thousand weight of good Loaf Bread Baked for the Troops against they come, some of my neighbours are following the example of throwing in a part of their Household provisions, but this will do but little Mr Williams is Just now returned from making a requisition through the Eastern side of the County, and informs me, he has little or no prospect of obtaining any worth mentioning without the Hard Cash, Mr John Voorhees writes me a letter Just now received a Copy is inclosed, from the whole it appears that some hard money must be had or the Troops I fear will not be supplyed (it is not to be had here) I have now made application to the Commissioners and commissarys of the lower countys of this shore, which if your Excellency and Honours think proper will please to have forwarded to them, with what amendments you may think necessary.

March 3
Red Book
No. 30
Letter 112

If hard money could be sent it appears to me there would be no difficulty in procuring meat, Mr Baruch Williams who is present now is of the same opinion, pray Excuse this Scrawl as I am interrupted fifty times while I am writing, and obliged to speak to three or four people at once,

P. S. 3 o'Clock P. M. the Marquis and Troops Just arrived,

if Hard money is sent would recomend that it comes to Mr Williams as He is the proper person to purchase

[Lafayette, Head of Elk, to Gov. Lee.]

March 3
Brown Book
No. 7
Letter 70

I Have the Honor to inform your Excellency that the troops, Artillery, and Stores destined to embark under my orders are Safely arrived at this place and to my Great disappointment are now detained for want of Vessels. This Affair is so important, Sir, and My Last orders from His Excellency General Washington are so positive, that I am afraid the Least delay may be attended with very Bad Consequences.

Our detachment Being accompaynied By a Large Quantity of Horses and Heavy Artillery, it will Require a Vast number of Vessels, and from what I Hear at this place the totality of the Vessels at Annapolis and Baltimore will Be Requisite for our Embarkation. Another important Article is to collect every Armed Vessel that can Be Had for the safety of our Navigation in the Bay. A sufficiency of Boats to Land the detachment at once, and of dispatch Boats to Carry intelligence are very essential.

March 3
Brown Book
No. 7
Letter 70

Was I not sensible Sir, of the importance of this Expedition, of the Happy effect it may Have for the advantage of all the states and the more particular interest of some, I would not presume to trouble your Excellency with a minute details of our boats. But unless the afore mentioned articles are sent to this place with the Greatest dispatch, it is my duty to observe to Your Excellency that delay will Render our expedition very precarious. My uneasiness on this Head Has Been increased By a Late Letter Received from the Commander in chief, wherein He urges the necessity of Embarking immediately, and from the nature of His plan observes the Great inconvenience of delay

Having laid our circumstances Before your Excellency and Having taken the liberty to observe [damaged].

March 3
Red Book
No. 27
Letter 63

[Stephen Stewart, West River, to the Council.]

this is to Give you the Earlyest notice that Jeams tucker is Com home and that Capt John Harrison was Careyd to Charles town Put on board of prison ship him and all his Crew whare Many ware Pereshed to Deth Harrison is got as far as Eden town on his way up now is there sick his Crew are still all on board of Prison Ships thats alive Excepting one that maid his Escape by swimming and has Got home Tucker Promised me to Com to you this Day he Can Give you good Information he left the British fleet Sunday when the french fleet left James River Munday week and went Down to the Capes I am very thankful to you for the trubell you have been at to Get my People Exchanged

March 3

[Zeph. Turner, Annapolis, to His Excellency Thos. Sim Lee Esqr Governor & The Honble Council]

I Resign the Appointment of Commissioner to settle and adjust the accounts of the Troops of this State in the service of the United States.

March 4

[Thos Beall of Geo. Geo. Town to His Excellency Thos Sim Lee Esqr.]
(fav^{d} by Capt. Jam^{s} Lingan)

I have been repeatedly called on by Detachments of Continental as well as State Troops on their march to Southern Army, for Provisions and Forage &c it has so happened that high Winds and badness of wether prevented them geting to a Regular post to draw the same.

Shall Esteem it a particular favour for your Orders how to proceed on like occations, I have Issued some Forage to Capt Golder & Capt Brown of Arti^{ry} Inclosed is a Coppy of Orders from Brig^{r} Genl Morgan in favour of Mr Willm Dent Formerly a Resident of this County—who is now here—drove by the Enemy with his Wife &

many small Children he applied to me for Corn & flour &c but shall not deliver any till I receive your Orders, on this head March 4

William Dent of Guilford County and State of North Carolina having furnished the Troops of the United States with two Thousand pounds of Salt Pork—Two hundred Bushells of Indian Corn and Ten bushells of Meal on Conditions of being furnished with the like quantity on his way to Maryland or in that State I do therefore hereby request all Commissarys and Forage Masters to Issue to the said William Dent or his order (not exceeding the Quantity above mentioned) taking his receipt for what each may Issue and Certifying the same on the back of this order—given under my hand at Guilford Court House in the State aforesaid this 6th Feby Anno Domini 1781. Signed Danl Morgan
Brigr Genl

True Coppy. Thos Beall of Geo. Geo Town 4th March 1781.

10th Februy 1781. Issued in Consequence of the within order Ten Bushells of Corn Jno Hodge

March 2. Issued by Wm Lane Junr 31¾ £ls. salted Beef 130# flour

[Joseph Dashiell, Worcester County, to Gov. Lee.] March 4

The night before I left Annapolis, Colo James Brice Inform'd me that the Govr & Council had ordered to be sent to Cambridge for the use of this County, A hundred Cartouch Boxes & a quantity of flints for the use of this County, In consequence of which I hired a Cart and sent for them, but got nothing as you will see by the Inclosed letter from Mr Stevens, this Disapointt Cost the State One hundred & Eighty seven pounds seven shillings & six pence, since which I am informed that the Stores ware actualy sent, and that the officer of that County, has distributed them to their Militia, if that is the Case, I hope I shall have an Order for them, and Capt John Smott who is now in Somoset Can lodge them with me on his return home, the flints we are in Grate want of as none are to be had heare, and my Brother Informs me that they have none in Somerset worth a farthing, I rote sum time ago for a Commission for Mr Henry Dennis, a Leiut in Capt Layfield Company I wish much to have it sent as he is afraid of being made a prisoner every night of his life, Colo Saml Handy likewise applyed to me to get a Commission for Mr Joshua Hodg: 1 Lieut & Thoms Smith 2 Lieut of Capt Matthew Purnels Comy which hope will Come by the Barer, I am sorry to Inform you that only Twenty One men turned out in this County as Select Militia men, tho I am still in hopes we shall make near all our select militia, the field officers have not made their Returns to me yet or I should have Inclosed them to your Excellency. Joseph Whalland that old offender is down in Somerset plundering Again and we have Reason to believe that the Gaoler in Baltimore is alone to blame as

March 4 Whaland's Father Informed One of our Neighbours that he Let him go at large sum time before he Came away if this practice is followed no one will venture to take any of them up and send them forward as they will be there to suffer for it, If I had Direction to go into Somerset, I think I could apprehend him, he has lately robed a Certain Thomas Reucker who I think would assist me to Trap him

A few nights ago. Mr Plannor Williams was plundered of a great part of his movable Property, by only nine men, who we have Reason to believe ware all Islanders, and as long as they stay there, so long that will Be the Case, there is not a week, that sum of our friends are not robed by sum of those Retches under Color of Belonging to the British Cruisers, whenever your Excellency & Council propose to Remove the people and stock of the Islands should be Glad to assist with all my heart as I consider them at this time the most Dangerous Enemy we have to watch the Motions off—and am Certain if they Can do us no other Damage they will rob & Plunder all they Can before they are removed.

February 20 [R. Stevens, Cambridge to Joseph Dashiell, Esq. Worcester Co.]

Mr Dashiel has applied here for some Cartouch Boxes & Gun flints there was nothing Came here (as I understood by Mr Middleton) but what was for the use of this County, Except some Lead which was for Caroline County, Neither was there any Letter nor Memorandum from the Governour and Council to any Person here Respecting the Articles sent.

NB. Should any come to hand shall take care of them

March 4 [George Dashiell, Somt Coty to Gov. Lee.] (Favd by Mr. McBryde)

I am sorry to inform Your Excellency that it has become absolutely necessary to call out a number of our Militia to protect us from the ravages of the enemy sundry of the inhabitants of this county within a few Days past have suffered much by parties either from british Cruisers or the inhabitants of the largier Islands (tho' I believe the latter) as a number of them are well known by persons that they have plundered. A detachmt of thirty men is stationed contiguous to Green Hill warehouse to prevent their plundering it of the public tobacco a considerable quantity of which is deposited there and should an attempt be made on that house I am apprehensive they would succeed in it as I have not confidence in our Militia when call'd out by Classes Salisbury is 12 miles distant from Greenhill warehouse A place of Safety and houses sufficient for the reception of the tobacco it may if Judged necessary be conveyed by water, and will be attended with little expence and trouble, I have considered it my duty to inform your Excellency of the danger which I apprehend there is of loosing it if not timely removed. Our Militia when

on duty suffers much for camp kettles it is with the greatest difficulty they can get their rations dressed and is often oblige to broil their meat as numbers of the inhabitants will neither lend nor hire them pots I request the fav[r] of your Excellency to order a few Camp kettles to be sent to me if they can be spared. The company ordered from Dorset to compell the payment of the taxes in pocomoke and Annemessix Hundred have this day come into the County. March 4

The people in this county will not enter as select Militia men, we were not able to procure a single man out of either of the Battalions

[M. Gist, Baltimore, to Gov. Lee.]

March 4
Brown Book
No. 3
Letter 23

I have this moment received a Letter from the Marquis at the Head of Elk requesting that all the Vessels at this port might be sent immediately to receive the Troops, who are waiting to embark—he complains much of his disappointment there being but very few Vessels at Elk.

I shall have a meeting of the Merch[ts] this Ev[g], and expect they will adopt some mode to forward such Sea Vessels as are here to morrow, if not I hope and expect your Excellency & Council will excuse me for taking possession of such Vessels and impressing hands for the purpose of forwarding this important expedition.

NB. I am afraid there will not be vessels sufficient for the Troops.

[Sam. Huntington, President, Philadelphia, to Gov. Lee.]

March 4
Brown Book
No. 7
Letter 2

By the enclosed Act of Congress of the 3[d] Instant your Excellency will be informed that all the Convention Troops both in Virginia & Maryland are to be removed to Yorktown & Lancaster or such other Places in the State of Pennsylvania as the Executive of that State shall assign for their reception: and the State of Maryland is requested to superintend the removal, Safe keeping & supply of the German Corps from Nolands Ferry on Potowmack, and the British now at Frederick town, through Maryland to the Borders of Pennsylvania, and to continue the Guards until the British Prisoners arrive at Yorktown & the Germans at Lancaster, or such other Places as the Executive of Pennsylvania shall appoint for their reception. The supplies both for the Prisoners & Escort are to be furnished by Pennsylvania after they arrive within the Borders of that State.

If the Prisoners taken by Gen[l] Morgan in the Action at the Cowpens should be removed to the Northward through Virginia, it is necessary to include them also

I need not point out to your Excellency the Necessity & Importance of supplying a sufficient Guard, & especially a Commanding Officer equal to the Task to prevent Desertion or any other Impediment to the Execution of these Orders

March 4
Brown Book
No. 7
Letter 2

I suppose the Prisoners in Virginia are now on their way to Nolands Ferry, as Governor Jefferson hath already advised me that the situation of Affairs in that State compelled him to put them in Motion; and I have desired him to give your Excellency the earliest Notice of their Movement, that a Guard might be ready prepared to receive them at the Borders of Maryland

It will also be necessary that President Reed have previous seasonable Notice of the Time when the Prisoners will enter the State of Pennsylvania

March 4
Red Book
No. 29
Letter 45

[Dun Ochiltre, Annapolis, to Gov. Lee.]

After my long and expensive Journey am now like to be under the necessity of returning without doing any business being yesterday obliged to leave the Hon[l] Council without knowing whether they meant ever to pay the Draught or not. I know Gen[l] Gates will not believe my Verbal Assertion that I am put of without any Satisfaction & will therefore Apply to no other resource I proposed to take orders on the treasury but could not obtain them from which Circumstances I Conclude the draught is not to be answered at all but is at the same time Surprized that was not openly declared in Council.

Intruding as it is I am obliged to apply to your Excellency to know what I am to understand concerning this matter and when you Consider the extraordinary inconveniences that I labour under I hope you will excuse me and send me an answer in a few lines by the bearer

March 5
Red Book
No. 28
Letter 34
[This list is filed in Red Book, No. 28, Letters 35 & 36]

[Henry Dickinson, Treasr E Shore, Caroline County, to Gov. Lee.]

Yours of the second February came to hand the Twentyeth of February Covering a Resolve of the Assembly respecting the Collectors, and also yours of the 28th came to hand the fifth Instant, and agreeable to your Request of the 2[d] I herewith Transmit you a List of Balances due from the Collectors on the Eastern Shore in 1779 as also a List of Balances due from the several Collectors for the year 1780 so fare forth as is in my Power, as you will see from the returns herewith sent, but the Negligence of the Commissioners of the Tax on this shore is such for want of their returns, its out of my Power to Assertain the Exact Balances due the State; I should have put several of the Collectors Bonds in Suite, but on applying to the Clark of the General Court, I find that none of those Bonds which ought to have been Put in Suite have been return'd to his Office.

You also request in your last of the 28th February that I will send all the Tobacco and money in my hands to the Western Shore Treasurer, which I would most Chearfully have done but having been Confined to my Bed and Room for this six Weeks Past and now hardly able to set up to doe any Business; Puts it out of my Power to goe with my self and dont know of any Person to be Hired at this

time, which is to be trusted to send it by; I have therefore inclosed you a List of all the Tobacco in my hands, and the Different Quantity's at each Different ware House of both Crop and Transfer, with the Number weight and Date of each Hogshead, which I hope may answer your Purpose for the Present. the Greatest Part of which I have received since the first of this Instant. As to the money in my hands which is about One hundred thousand Pounds Continental & Convention, I received last week from the Collectors of Talbot, Dorset and Somerset is all the money in my hands except £50 in Specie received on Loan the Continental & Convention I suppose is to be exchanged for the new Continental State Bills but when you sent me the new money to Exchange, you Omitted sending me a Copy of the Act, by which I was to Exchange it (and which I desired the Guard to mention to you) and have never yet been furnished with one—and therefore have been obliged to Exchange the money all together upon Hearsay which if rong, I hope will not be said to my Charge, whare People have brought in Continental & Convention I have Exchanged it at one for forty to the Amount of 440971 60/90 Continental Dollars. 7871 60/90 dollars Convention and 30½ dollars old Maryland money, and as I apprehend there will be a Considerable Quantity of the new Bills remaining on hand on the fifteenth of this Instant (which time I am told it must be returned to the Continental Treasurer) if so, Shall be glad to be informed by a Line from you, what Guard may be necessary for me to send with it to Annapolis, as also the Continental & Convention which I have Exchang'd

March 5 Red Book No. 28 Letter 34 [This list is filed in Red Book, No. 28, Letters 35 & 36]

I suppose the Different Collector's Bonds will be put in Suite immediately and therefore; shall be glad to be inform'd wheather I am to Continue receiving from them any parts which they may hereafter offer, without the whole Principal due and the Interest thereon being paid down the Collectors all seem very Desirous of Settling their Balances and say; they shall be able to make a final Settlement by the General Court (except the Collectors of Cecil & Worcester which I have not seen nor heard from since August last. I presume the last Assembly has injoyned many duties on the Treasurers, and therefore shall be glad to be furnished with the Acts of the last Sessions in time.

[Capt. Alex. Murray, West River, to Governor Lee] March 5

I have this moment heard of a Prisoner now in Baltimore Jail that was captured by the Porpoise on her Course down the Bay, & reserv'd for a Capt of Mr Stewards, which Capt has now return'd & at Liberty, Mr Steward informed me that with your approbation, I may get him & as there is now a good opportunity of sending him down to Virginia to be deliver'd to Arnolds hands I shall esteem it a great favor if you'll have the exchange settled in my behalf, theres at present a wide feild for me to be employed in & wish most fer-

March 5 vently to embrace the Moment Major Steward will take charge of him and will take him down myself with the first [boat] that can be procur'd. I am inform'd that Mr Danl Hughes is the present Commissary of Prisoners & his Certificate will be a sufficient indemnification for me to Act as I may think proper in future

P. S. the Captns name is Whitehead

March 5 Monday night 11 o'clock Red Book No. 27 Letter 54

[Stephen Stewart, West River, to the Council.]

I have yours and shall Do my Indevor to serve the Emportent Caus but am afraid I shall be able to Do but littel I think I have one or two vesels In Hering Bay which I will have If they are not Gone as to Provition I think there is none I have not Bought 1200 lbs of Poark this year When I asignd to have had twenty thousand how Ever I will Do my Indevor to find the vesels meat provitions that I Impress I have ben very onwell myself for several Days Past and My Clarke is Gone on some Business In the lower Countys. I think Provitions and vesels might be got In Kent County and vesels from Chester If Proper methods are taken I have an old Sloop of my own which I would send to you Chearfuly but am fraid she would Drown some of your Troops

March 6 [Joshua Beall, Lieut, Prince Gs Cty to His Excly Thos Sim Lee Esqr.]

I was in hopes Ere this it would have been in my power to have returned you Rolls of at least two full Companys of Select Militia from this County. I only on the 4th instant received a return from the Upper Battalion of 26 men. This day I received a return from Colll Lyles of the Lower Battalion, of 35 men who had turned out from 4 of his Companys that met at Piscataway, the other half of his Battalion were to meet on the Patuxent side of the County, from whome he had then no return, but Expected he shuld be able to return a full company from his Battalion From the middle Battalion I am told only one man turned out. As it would be very inconvenient to form the men from the Extreme parts of the County into one Company, I shall try them once more, as a favourable Oppertunity presents at present from a false alarm we had on Monday last Which I did not hear of till about 11 oClock that day Capn Wright of the Militia Company on the other side the Eastern branch came riding post hast to inform me, that three Ships of force of the Enemie was then lying off Alexa That they had sent an Express in the Night from Alexr to George Town for Assistance, and that his Company was then on its March to Hambourghe

I just wrote an Order to Colll Lucas with respect to the Stock & Craft along shore in Case it shuld be an Enemie, took my horse & rode down to be better informed of the matter: When I got to Middletons I found the three Vessells of force proved to be three small Top Sail Scooners that had come round from Baltimore for Tobacco,

who it seems had a drum on board, from the Beating that & having Top sails to their Vessels, raised an alarm on that side the river among the people some distance below Alex^{a} wch quickly reached that place an set them to fireing their Alarm Guns in the night & next morning, which I had not the least Idea of before, this alarmed the people on this side. Coll^{l} Addison without informing me of the matter it seems ordered the Militia of his neighbourhood to meet at the ferrey, many of whome I was told had met and gone home again, but for the want of Arms could have been of no other use than that of driving off the Stock had there been occasion for it. March 6

In the receiving yours respecting the Enemies taking Ritchmond I issued orders for a return of all the armes belonging to the Militia in this county but have not had a full return yet, from what I have had I dont think there are five arms in Order for each company in the county. I am in hopes this small fright will convince the people of the Necessity of having arms in their hands to defend themselves & property, and shall Order another meeting of the militia in hopes of raising our full Quota of Select Militia in this County.

[W. Beanes, W. Bowie, Edward Sprigg, and J. Contee, Prince Georges County to the Governor and Council.] March 7

As it always has been our desire and intention to perform our duty in the office of Commissioners of the tax for this county, we are sorry to find by yours of the first instant that we were to send an Account of the tobacco assessment to the treasurer by the 20th ult. that suits might be commenced against defaulters; we shall not attempt to excuse ourselves only by giving a short and plain State of the fact: which was that we have not received the Law to this day, but have been told the collector had to the tenth day of April to pay the tobacco assessment. However on the receipt of yours we have called on the Collector and settled with him this day and have delivered his account to be transmitted to the treasurer.

[Rich'd Dallam, Harford County] March 7

When I left Annapolis it was my purpose to make up all my Accounts with the Public for a final settlement and attempted to collect Vouchers to have them regular. My want of money obliged me to make so many Partial Payments I found it w^{ld} cost me more time then I could take from the other Business I had to transact for the Public and as I hoped that income of the present collection to procure them without the trouble & Expence of riding to Every mans House to collect them I have delayed it tho my mind is much set on the settlement of my old Accounts

All the money I have received has been expended for the public & I am considerably in debt for my last purchase & am much Pushd for the money to make my Brother Easey I give him an order for

March 7 the am^{t} of His wheat I received hoping by some way he w^{ld} be satisfyd but he returned more uneasy not receiving any satisfaction when or how he might expect Payment nor even told whether my order w^{ld} be paid or not & as he was entitled to receive his money last fall when I bo^{t} his wheat & when even Gold was offered him down for it He still having the opportunity of geting the money wants The wheat returned as do others which I have received, I am allways distressed on acc^{t} of my Public Creditors & my Life is burdensome I am Pursuaded that I have done all in my Power to serve the State and fear I am not as well attended to as others entrusted with like Business which adds to my uneasiness. The pay Given me could be no inducement it allways fell short of the real Expence And if I am not so fortunate as to give satisfaction I lose my reward If money can not be furnishd to satisfy my Creditors Who I can no longer put off I shall be glad to be directd to give up the flour & Wheat in my hands to Quiet them as I most devoutly pray for the freedom of my Country I have been obliged to do everything in my Power for her obtaining it otherwise I should before this withdrawn my Services & persued Business much more Agreeable & advantagous to my Private Interest.

If a State of my Purchases & delivery since my last returns will give the satisfaction wanting they shall be sent immediately on Notice My other Accounts I hope will be perfectd soon after my hurry is over in classing & draughting the Militia of this County

March 7
Red Book
No. 30
Letter 114

[H. Hollingsworth, Elk, to His Excellency Thomas Sim Lee.]

The Inclosed I have made use of heretofore, which hath procur'd some provisions, shall now be obliged to Execute your orders of the 5th through disagreeable.

Cecil County, Maryland

The commissioners having this day received a letter from Col^{o} Henry Hollingsworth mentioning that he was applyed to by Col^{o} Donaldson Yeates D. Q. M. for a quantity of Provisions for a particular emergency, and requesting the Commissioners to give all the aid in their power to provide provisions for the aforesaid purpose and the commissioners receiving inteligence that a number of Continental Troops were expected at the Head of Elk on their way to the southward, think it their duty to request the Inhabitants of Cecil County to furnish as Speedy as possible at the Head of Elk Mr Baruch Williams commissary for Cecil County such provisions and Forage as they can possibly spare and all provision and Forage delivered to him before the departure of said Troops from the Head of Elk, shall be allowed and discounted out of the first collection of Tax imposed by the Act entitled an Act to receive the supplies for the year 1781 and Mr Baruch Williams is requested to give notice accordingly, as witness our hands this 28th day of February 1781

Jno. D. Thompson, Thomas Savin, Samuel Gilpen.

[Proclamation]

February 28
Red Book
No. 30
Letter 114

To the Inhabitants of Cecil County: The continental Troops to the amount of fifteen hundred having yesterday arived at this place and there being little or no Flesh provisions at the Post, the Inhabitants are most earnestly Solicited to throw in a part of their household provisions on the present Interesting Emergency, the stay of the Troops is expected to be not more then three or four days the Salt provisions they have with them must be preserved for their embarkation therefore it is expected (as much depends on the Success of the present Expedition) that every Inhabitant will contribute all in their power according to their circumstances for which they shall be allowed a generous price in the first payment of their Tax, several Inhabitants of this Village have generously thrown in more then their circumstances would admit of.

H. Hollingsworth Receivor for the State

Head of Elk 4th March 1781

[Stephen Steward, West River, to the Council.]

March 7
Red Book
No. 27
Letter 52

Agreeabel to your Desier I have Strove all that in my Power to send off vessels to the Head of the Bay to take In the troops the People Pay but littel Regard to your warent a very fine schooner belonging to Mr Letch lying In Herring bay that would Carry at lest from 70 to 80 souldiers without Bagage avoids going as Mr Letch had Dun In the same manner when you was sending Down troops last Sumer som young men I have had Prest to go In vessels to git them away Refuses going If none is to go In to the State Serviss but what chuses themselves I think If Ever you should want vessels and men again, you will git none with out you will make Exampels Mr David Weems sent up his schooner Cherfuly with a Negro Skiper as no whit man would go I have likewise sent off my old Sloop with a very valubell Negro which must be taken out as the sloop Coms Down I have had two or three young fellows Prest In the nabourhood that I might have kept my Negro back but it answered no End I harlly wish to see the law Put Into Execution If any I have offer to find the vessels Provetion

[And. Buchanan, Wm Spear, John Moale, to His Excellency Thos Sim Lee Esqr]

March 8

Mr Richard Owings Collector of Delaware Hundred having very lately return'd the Commissioners of the Tax, a Number of Persons Omitted to be Assessed by Christopher Owings the Assessor of the same Hundred and have received the Commissioners orders to Collect the Taxes from them Acquaint us he is not in Arrears Except from those Persons mentioned above and as he has not yet had Time, he ought to be longer Indulged.

March 8 [David Poe, D. Q. M. Baltimore to Honourable Brigadier General Gist, Annapolis]

I Reced your favour of Yesterday and have been Trying what Articles could be procured at this place. I believe the whole may be had except the Plank called in the Invoice, about Three or four Inches thick which cannot be had as there is none of that kind ever comes to this place, and some other of the small Articles will be dificult to procure.

But the great Matter is the Want of Cash, I have none and my Credit is not to be depended on, as I have been too free with it. I am afraid I shall not be able to procure much without Money. There is an order Lyes with the Continental Treasurery Board—which I am to Receive a part of to the Amount of 1200 pounds new Money. I Beg that you would make Application to the Treasurer perhaps he may be able to give some Assistance, If so Please send it by the Bearer. Ten sail of Bay Craft sailed this morning under Convoy of Capt Martin. I have procured a fine sea Schooner which will be Ready to sail in the morning she Carries about 70 Hogsheads she came up Yesterday—there is four or five Bay Craft will be Ready to sail to-morrow.

March 8
Red Book
No. 27
Letter 40

[Pat Sim Smith, Calvert, to Gov. Lee.]

I had the honor of writing you some time past requesting to be supplied with Cash to pay for the provision I purchased and Salt to cure it but have received neither. The money I had an Order for on the Collector is applied partly in purchasing wheat & I have been obliged to pay some of it for Pork flour Barrells &^{ca} Have also been under the necessity of borrowing about a hundred pounds new Emissions of the collector to Comply with some of my contracts and Still want about a hundred pound more. Must therefore beg I may be supplied either with cash from the Treasury or with an order on the Collector to cover the whole—my Salt is all expended and I have been obliged to purchase to Salt some provision I had collected, I shall now only want a few Bushells to resalt & pack the provision I have on hand & if there is no convenience of sending it from Annapolis shortly, Hope I may be directed to purchase here, as 'tis absolutely necessary the whole should be seasoned before the weather gets too warm. I have now on hand a few fatted Cattle and expect more this week, think there will be Ten or Eleven in the whole, I'm obliged to have them fed high which will be attended with considerable expence—they are now very fine and must fall away unless taken great Care of. I had directions some time past to send what I could then procure to Mr George Murdock in Frederick Town, unless those I now have can be otherwise made use of more Conveniently, I think twould be proper to send them to Mr Murdock without delay.

I wish therefore to have directions what to do with them by the Return of our post at farthest, and at sometime hope I may be furnished either with the Cash I have mentioned above or an order on our Collector, as I am considerably in arrears I am daily press'd for it. March 8 Red Book No. 27 Letter 40

Col° Fitzhugh & Dr Johnson informs me they had made application for me to the appointment of Auctioneer for this county, under an Act of the last General Assembly, I'm not yet acquainted with the Tenor of the Act, but should the appointment be not engaged to any other person & your Excellency & the Council are inclined to commission me I will very thankfully accept it

[Robt. F. Hooe, Alexandria, to Gov. Lee.] (favor of Capt. Conway) March 9 Red Book No. 28 Letter 47

I was in hopes to have had it in my power to give Your Excellency an agreeable Acc^t of both Cornwallis & Arnold before this, but by our latest advices I am afraid the former will make good his retreat—the latter I think must fall into our hands, as by this time there must be a very great Militia force upon his back, and if the french fleet continue to block him up, he must shortly surrender for want of Provisions, being as we are informed in great want. Capt. Conway has two Vessells fitting out here in wch I am interested & the expence & difficulty of getting Commissions from Richmond being very great, I have to beg the favor of Your Excellency to grant them at Annapolis, and I will see the Bonds executed and punctually return'd from this place.

[R. Purviance, W. Patterson, M. Ridley Baltimore, to James McHenry Esqr.] March 9 Red Book No. 28 Letter 59

In consequence of Your Letter dated March 6th 1781 to the Merchants of Baltimore stating the difficulties that may possibly arise respecting the Troops at the Head of Elk a meeting of this body was held to day when we had the honor of being appointed a Committee to transact the bussiness on the present occassion.

We are authoris'd to assure you in their names that no exertions within the compass of their abilities shall be wanting to expedite the enterprize of Major General the Marquiss de la Fayette & the military Subordinate to him, they being warmly dispos'd to aid & give immediate energy to his operations against the common Enemy.

And on the application of the commanding officer to us for any articles, which tho' necessary to furnish the Detachment Government cannot procure on the present emergency, the Merchants here will give their best assistance to obtain them.

We woud however suggest the expedience of giving us timely notice of such deficiencies as some Articles are always difficult to be procur'd even for Cash—

All the Vessels in the harbour have already been sent to the Head of Elk. (See page 115)

True copy. J. B. Cutting, Sec^y

March 9
7 o'clock
Red Book
No. 29
Letter 50

[James McHenry, Near Turkey Point on board the Nesbit, to Gov. Lee.]

A small vessel waits upon you with this letter to receive any dispatches or intelligence the Governor or Council may be received for the Marquiss. The boat has orders to wait at the mouth of the harbour for the Marquiss who is to leave this in about an hour, and precedes the fleet upon some particular business down the bay. You will be pleased to use expedition in dispatching the boat to its station. The fleet I expect will be before Annapolis sometime tomorrow

March 9
Red Book
No. 32
Letter 53
[Indorsed, "10th ordered Mr. Bullen to receive them (14) & send to the Hospital & apply to Dr Murray for what might be Wanted"]

[James McHenry, V[oluntere] aide de camp, On board the Nesbit, to His Excellency Governor Lee.]

It being necessary to send on shore a number of sick soldiers of this detachment, its commanding officer Major General the Marquiss de la Fayette, has directed me to request, that if there be any provision at Annapolis for such, that your Excellency would issue your orders for their reception.

March 9

[Wm. Whitely, Caroline County, to The Governor and Council.]

Agreeable to an Act to imbody a number of select Militia and for immediately putting this State in a proper posture of Defence—the Battalions in our County have been Called together and we could not prevail on as many others to turn out as would form one Compy and I am apt to think that there is not the least probability of raising a Company in our County.

March 9

[George Murdock, Frederick Town, to Governor Lee]

Since writing your Excellency by Mr Thos Beatty—I have recd several supplys of Meat, sufficient to enable the Issuing Commissary to deliver the Convention Troops Five or Six days full Rations exclusive of the Guard. I flatter myself If I can be well supply'd with money so as to enable me to send some distance off, Provision may be collected nearly sufficient for this Post. I am much in want of Cash & hope to receive a supply on Mr Beatty's return.

March 10

[Dan'l Hughes, Balto, to Gov. Lee]

On the Recpt of yours of the 23rd of February I sent Captt Whitehead on Parole to New York. If possible to effect the exchange of Capt Harrison and his Crew, if not to be done, to return within five weeks, from that time. He has sett out, for Philadelphia where he is to call on Mr Bradford Compy of Prisoners to whome I have inclosed a letter for Captt Whitehead, signifying your intention (as Captn Harrison is exchangd) of exchanging Captn Murry for him, and requests that he may send out a Certifycate from the Compy at New York of Captn Murrys exchange.

I should have sent the prisoners on to Philadelphia on their Arrival here, but could not procure a Guard for that purpose. If you choose to send these prisoners through the Continental line of exchange, please to direct me where to apply for a Guard. I understand that three of the prisoners made their escape last night from the Goal, the Mate you desier to be delivered to Coll Stewart is one of them, There is sixteen Seamen prisoners of war Now in Goal March 10

[Robert Purviance, Matt. Ridley, and Wm Patterson, Baltimore, to Gov. Lee.] March 10 Red Book No. 28 Letter 57

We have the honor to inclose you the copy of a Letter from Mr James McHenry relative to the Troops there at the Head of Elk, and destin'd on a particular expedition. In consequence of what is therein set forth a meeting of the Merchants of this Town was held yesterday, when it was unanimously determined to afford every assistance in their power; and Mr McHenry has been notified of it. A copy of the Letter to him You have inclosed as also a notice of the Sign'd Agreement. (See page 113)

We beg leave to assure your Excellency we are actuated solely by the warmth of our attachment to the common cause and zeal for the honor of the State. We do not mean to weaken the natural exertions of Government; or by pledging ourselves on the present occasion derive any credit, individually to which the State at large is not entitled. Mr McHenry's Letter is pressing. We have adapted such measures as appeard most expedient; if thought in the least interfering with the authority or power of Government, we can for our constituents sincerely assure you, that any other effectual measure will most readily be acquiesced in and conformed to.

If the proceedings meet your approbation we cannot doubt of your pursuing such steps as will secure us from injury. Preparatory thereto it will be necessary to receive Your approbation & that you give us Your assurance on behalf of the State, to confirm such agreements as may be enter'd into for the Service and that if advances are made they shall be reimbursed in their full value, with interest at some short stated period.

To lessen your difficulties on this head, we think with submissions it will be proper to furnish us with an order on the Collector of this Town and County, to receive such collections as he may make so far as the same may become necessary for reimbursements or compliance with contracts. This we deem extremely necessary if we are to proceed that individual embarrassments may be avoided.

We flatter ourselves the conduct adopted in this instance will be approv'd by your honourable board

A Letter dated Elk the 6th March 1781 from Mr James McHenry to the Merchants of Baltimore having been received, stating the peculiar situation of Major General the Marquis de la Fayette then at Ibid. Letter 58

Ibid. Letter 58 that place, with a number of Troops Destined on an expedition, and that unless the Merchants, and others, of this Town, wou'd unite in procuring such assistance as the Troops may want, there is reason to apprehend a failure of the enterprize, we the subscribers fully impressed with the importance of annoying & repelling the common Enemy, & Sensible of the Difficulties which Government at this time labour under, from the Exhausted situation of the Treasury, do hereby agree to afford every assistance in our power, and that we will ratify and confirm such agreements or purchases as may be made for the purposes of expediting the above business by Messrs Robert Purviance Matthew Ridley & William Paterson a Committee appointed to Transact it, at a meeting held this day; and that we will by subscriptions of money if necessary, enable the said Gentlemen to fullfil their contracts. It is however understood that the said Gentlemen, in matters of importance, shall call a meeting of the subscribers, that they may be informed how far the Credit may be pledged, and the Majority of those met, agreeing thereto shall be binding on the whole. It is also expected the Committee will write the Governor & Council of the measures adopted & settle some proper mode with them of receiving money for the completion of purchases; and in case of necessary advances to Guarantee Subscribers as to repayments of them

A true Copy

J. B. Cutting Sec^ry^

Ibid. Letter 59 Extract of a Letter from James McHenry Esqr dated Elk 6th March '81. Addressed to the Merchants of Baltimore.

On joining Major General, the Marquiss de la Fayette, I was convinced of what I had before suspected, that his Enterprize wanted all Your assistance. He has been greatly disappointed; and of course it has stood still for some days; and without very general exertions may be defeated in its commencement. Such is the deranged state of our treasury affairs, that public officers find a thousand inconveniencies & obstacles in the execution of their duty. Scarce a Waggon can be put in motion without adding to the powers of Government that of private assistance. In such a situation it becomes the duty of Individuals, and of particular societies of men, to contribute a certain support beyond what may be consider'd their proper proportion. This is look'd for under all Governments but expected more peculiarly in the republican. I need not select as an instance the Philadelphia Merchants who have so long kept the Northern Army supplies with provisions.

You will be surpriz'd that a Sufficient number of Vessels for the transport of the Troops have not yet arriv'd. But there are other matters as necessary to the enterprize which without your interposition may not be provided.

I do not intend from this representation that the Merchants shou'd furnish the Enterprize with every thing that is to be procur'd from Baltimore, at their private expence. I wou'd only propose to your consideration the propriety of forming a Committee out of your body for the purpose of giving effect & furtherance to the measure taken by the Public to such a point as you may judge proper, or as may be done without material injury to Yourselves Ibid. Letter 59

The Marquis cannot write you himself in the first instance not before he knows Your disposition or arrangements. If you do any thing I beg it may be instant, that we may have it to say to ourselves the expedition has not fail'd for want of what support we cou'd give it. As it is probable another Detachment will follow this we shall want more Vessels, your assistance may also become essential during the whole course of our operations.

[Jos^a Beall, Lieu^t P^s G^s C^ty to His Excellency, Thomas Simm Lee Esqr] March 11

I received Yours with the presepts for Garland Callis and Overton Carr yesterday evening, This Will be delivered you By Cap^n William Bene together with all the papers wee could find having searched or rather Examined their Deskes which they very readily opened those belonging to Calless, are inclosed in paper by themselves Those belonging to Calliss is sealed up by themselves. I shuld have come up with those men myself but am obliged to Attend at Notingham To morrah agreeable to my own Advertisement for receiving the money from those who did not find their Substitutes in our last Clases which I hope will be Admitted as a sufficient Excuse for my not Attending in person.

[G^o Washington, New Port, to Marquis de Lafayette, Elk River, Md.] March 11 Brown Book No. 1 Letter 64 [copy]

I do my Self the honor to inform your Excellency That I arrived here on the 6th in Consequence of previous Arangements between the Count de Rochambeau & my Self. I found between Eleven & twelve hundred of the French Granadeers And Infantry allready embarked & the fleet nearly ready to Sail. They however did not put to Sea untill the Evening of the 8th

By advice from New London the Brittish Which was in Gardners Bay did the same Yesterday Morning. With their whole Force, they gave Out they were bound for Cheseapeake

I have the Honour to be with the Greatest Respect Your Excellencys Most Obe^t Hum. Servt

March 11 [David Poe, D. Q. M. Baltimore, to The Honourable Brigadier General Gist, Annapolis]

I herewith Inclose you an Invoice of such Articles as I have at this place Ready to forward as soon as I Receive your orders where I am to send them. I have Craft Ready for the purpose and will be able to morrow morning to Procure several other Articles.

I beg that you would let me know as soon as Convenient what I am to do in the Matter,

P. S. Sir Please to let me know when I am to Ship the Light Horse Furniture

March 11 [William Wise, Worcester County, to Gov. Lee.] (By Capt. Waters)

Being informed that a quantity of Corn and lumber is proposed to be sent by this State to New York, for the support of the American Prisoners, I wou'd engage to send a quantity of Corn there immediately, provided I cou'd be informed of the terms upon which it is to be sent, and procure proper passports for transporting the same. I have a Vessel about 800 bushels burthen and Corn ready purchased & wou'd engage to transport any quantity that may be necessary as the Vessel can do it. If your Excellency shoud approve of this proposition, must beg the favor of you to inform me of it, and send proper instructions, and passports as soon as opportunity occurs. Any Security that may be required for performance of the above, I shall be ready at any time to give

March 12
Red Book
No. 28
Letter 37

[George Dashiell, Som^t County, to Gov. Lee.]

I make no doubt but you will be acquainted with the Enemy being in possession of Vienna before the receipt of this; They have done but little Injury in this County since they came, we are now on duty and doing every thing in my power to prevent their procuring provision from this place; Mr Dove the bearer of this has Just inform'd me that he was going to Annapolis. And as I am apprehensive that several deserters from the Army will be apprehended and brought to me in a few days consider it absolutely necessary to apply to your Excellency for some person from the Army, to deliver the deserters to, as I have no way to secure them, we have no jail in the County. Could Mr Dove return for that purpose I should be in hopes to get them to Camp but if they should be delivered to me and commited to the Jail of this County I am satisfied that they will immediately make their escape.

March 12 [Th: Jefferson, Richmond, to Governor Lee]

Your Excellency's favor of the 7th came to hand last night, we have been endeavouring to procure what armed Vessels we could, but they are in James river, and of course cannot possibly get out of

that river but under countenance of a Naval power superior to that of the enemy; and indeed they are so trifling that they could not venture up the bay were they out of James river from the best accounts I have received, the enemy have three Ships of force within the bay, in addition to those Arnold had before, the French squadron has withdrawn from the bay some considerable time. We are doing our utmost to procure the boats necessary for landing the cannon & troops, that is we are taking every one in James river, but they will fall very far short of what Baron Steuben deems necessary, the boats in the upper part of the river cannot navigate the lower parts, nor can any be carried round from the other rivers. We feel ourselves so much interested in the enterprize meditated that we have set every instrument into motion which can possibly avail us, our exertions are much circumscribed by the want of means. March 12

[Th: Jefferson, In Council, Richmond, to Governor Lee] March 12

The Prisoners of convention & those taken at the Cowpens having been ordered on the late approach of Ld Cornwallis to move on to our Northern boundary, while Congress could be consulted as to what should be done with them, I have received a Letter from the President from which the inclosed is extracted they have I believe reached as far as Winchester from which place they are now ordered to move on to Knowlands ferry, where the President in another Letter informs me your Excellency will have made provision for subsisting & guarding them further on. According to the desire of the Congress expressed in the Presidents Letter I have taken the liberty of communicating this to your Excellency.

[Thomas Beall of Geo. for T. Richardson, Com^{y} Geo. Town, to His Excellency, Tho. S. Lee Esqr.] March 13

As Capt Richardson is not yet Returned but expected daily, have herewith inclosed a Scetch of this purchase made by Mr Richardson under his former Appointment, & likewise what & where he is deposited the same,—all the Provisions sent to this post, by Mr Jno Smith Brookes were sent on to Geo. Murdock at F. Town without any delay—there has not been any Provisions sent from Charles & St Mary's Counties, when Mr Richardson Returns do not Doubt but he will give you a full & Satisfactory Acc^{t} in ans^{r} to your last Request.

[Chas. Blake, Corsica, to Governor Lee] March 13

I receiv'd y^{r} Excell^{cys} of the 7th the day before yesterday, and have rode about all day yesterday in search of provisions, I believe these may be had near the quantity desird 10,000 weight and perhaps the full quantity but it must be fresh I find Salt meat very scarce. And from an apprehension that the fresh beef might spoil this warm

March 13 weather put in the hole of a Vessel, I am induced to mention the State provisions ready salted and packed in my hands which amount to more than the quantity desir'd, and as the division may stand in need of an immediate supply can be sent with greater expedition; and the seizure may still go on or stop as you judge best. I have a Vessel now Stop'd to carry it when you may order but as she has some wheat on board which must be again taken out and Stor'd if she is order'd to proceed with the provisions which may be attended with some loss to the owners of the wheat if there could come a State boat to Corsica it might do better. I have been applied to by the Millers employ'd in grinding for the State for the Tallow sav'd from the beef salted I should be glad to be instructed what to do with the tallow and hogs Lard. The Com^{rs} of the Tax as by Law directed have appointed places for the reception of wheat three Mills and three Grainrys, the Law directs all the wheat to be by me carried to the Mills in the Co^{ty} from the grainrys to be ground unless otherwise orderd by y^{r} Excel: the wheat delivered at the above grainrys if sent to the Mills here will cost the State double what it would sent to Elk as the cartage to and from the Mills would be at least twenty miles I therefore hope y^{r} Exc^{l} will order it to Elk as I wish to avoid every expence to the State. The express waits at Kent Island y^{r} Ex^{cys} Answer to the above which shall be executed by y^{r} Ex^{cys} Most ob^{t} h^{ble} Servt

[P. S.] Please to send an answer by Mr Rawling's Boatmen.

C. B.

March 13 [Peter Chaille Worcester County to Governor Lee]

I Rec'd your Letter ꝑ Express, dated in Council, Annapolis, seventh of March you may rest ashored I shall do everything in my power to procure the Provisions, you Call for from this County

March 13 Red Book No. 28 Letter 38 [Joseph Dashiell, Wor. County, to Gov. Lee.] (By Col^{o} S. Handy or Maj Roxbury)

We have bin much Infested here this Ten days last past with the Enemys Crusars, and I am happy to inform you, that we in this Quarter, made a very formidable & suckesfull resistance, but finding themselves unable to land any whare, but they could do it under Cover of their Cannon, run up to Vienna, on Saturday last whare a very few Militia Under Col^{o} John Dickinson, & Capt. Smoot repulsed their Barges in landing three times, abought which time, the Lieutenant of that County arived and ordered the Militia to retreat as I am told, & has made a Capitulation that in my Oppinion will Disgrace us, & Be attended with the worst of Consequences, but as I make no Doubt but you are fully advis'd of this matter by Mr Hooper, I shall say no more upon the Subject.

I rote you sum days ago by M^{r} McBryde, since which I have rec^{d} your favour of the 15 ult. Inclosing a warrant for B. Shockley, but as our Militia has bin in motion Ever since, I have not had time

to attend to that Business, I am afraid we shall be oblidge to Troble your Excellency with several other persons, who are Thro: others doing every thing they Can to Discourage our Cause, Their was taken up and brought to me, yesterday that old offender Leven Deshroon, who has bin in Every Insurection, Has bin indited for joining in the Insurection in Susex last summer. Broke Goal & Join'd the Enemy, Since which he has bin in Lewes Town Goal, from which he has bin Bailed by sum of his friends in this County and has bin at home abought a fortnight; Behaving in the most Insolent manor, he was Insolent enough the other Night, in the house of a Certain George Parsons Junr To sing Sundry Disaffected Songs, and being opposed by sum Few whigs that was there that he would sing & say what he pleased whare he was Welcome, and the others said he should not in their presence, upon which he stript him self to fight, and would have bin handsomly treated by a Mr Finch that was preasent, but Mr Parsons would not suffer him to lay his hands upon him, Dishroon Declares to me, that he should not have Behaved as he Did, but he was Insisted upon to sing these songs by Parsons Brothers. I have made Two Majestrates acquainted with this Conduct but wheather they will take any Meashures to prevent in future such a Conduct I Cant tell, But now the Enemy are at our Dores, the Torys are Exceeding Important, which Conduct Tends to Discorage the young & weak minds, if a few of the ring leadors of these men was Cas'd to attend your Excellency in Council I am of oppinion it would be attended with very good Consequence I am sorry to Inform you that I could not arme more then Two hundred men, and many of their Armes was not such as A man Could well Trust his Life with, Sundry persons that have Good Armes will neither use them nor Lend to others, I have bin oblidge to seaze sum armes to put in to the hands of the Militia, which hope will meet your approbation, if you Could posably spare us sum Artillery & abought One hundred Armes & Cartouch Boxes, in Each County I think we should be able at all times to Turn out abought three hundred Good men from Each County which would be as many as would be necessary to prevent their Doing much Damage, But I am Convinced that One Galley Could be of more Service heare then five hundred men on Shore

March 13
Red Book No. 28
Letter 38

I have Inclosed you several Commissions, which please have New Commissions sent forward, agreable to the Inclosed List which is approved on all sides. I expect an Answer to my Letter by M^r McBryd to day after which I shall Wright you Immediately & send forward Mr Shockly

N. B I do not know Capt. Beach's Christian name nor the County he resides in but Mr Jeremiah Backor Cou'd Give you every Information upon that Subject we want sum Cartrig paper very much & flints.

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I refer you to Col° Handy for Particulars relative to the Militia &c and the Enemys motions; he will Bring the Commissions if they Can be made out. Mr Henry Dennis Commission is filed up as 2d Lieut to Capt. Layfield.

I had a hint from a friend that a Considerable Quantity of thick plank will be wanting for the Marquis De la Fayette, if so you have sum at Salisbury & I Can in a little time procure what may be wanting

May 13

[Majr E. Giles, Annapolis, to Gov. Lee]

Your Excellency will Please to excuse the Liberty I take in requesting you to lay before the Executive a Requisition from my Brother to be allowed the Gratuities Granted to Prisoners under a late Law of this State. He holds a Commission of Major in the Army of the United States but attached to no Particular Line. But as he pays Taxes in this State & has received no Benefits awarded by other States to their Officers, he conceives that together with his long Captivity he will be entitled in the opinion of the Executive to the aforesd Gratuity

March 13
Red Book
No. 5
Letter 40

[John Hanson and Daniel Carroll, Philadelphia, to Gov. Lee and the Council.]

We are under the necessity of requesting the favour of your Excellency and Honors, to transmit us, each, three months allowance as Delegates in Congress, as soon as the State of the Treasury, will enable you to do it. We beg leave to premise, that the Maryland State money does not pass here.

March 13

[Henry Hooper, Dorchester County, to Gov. Lee.]

On Saturday morning last, a Brigg and two Sloops of the Enemy came up to Vienna and began a heavy Fire on the Town with round and grape Shot, we had previously collected a party of Militia and posted them on the Bank to oppose the Enemies landing who kept up a brisk Fire on one of the Enemies Barges which was rowing a Shore full of Men till they were drove from their Stations by the Hot Fire from the Shiping & on their Retreat the Enemy landed, our party killed one and wounded three of the Enemy we had one man wounded, who is since dead of his wound. When the Enemy drew up on Shore, they sent in a Flagg to inform us they wanted nothing more than the Grain in Town and if we would give that up they would leave a part for the Inhabitants and would not plunder anything more & would pay the market price for the Grain, but if we should not agree to that and still continue Hostilities they would burn down the Town and destroy every Thing in it. As we could defend nothing, the Town and Grain lying under the command of their Vessels we agreed to the Terms they offered except that of

receiving a price for the Grain and they accordingly took off between nine hundred and a thousand Bushels of Indian Corn and on Monday Morning last proceeded down the River when they came up to Vienna they left a Privateer Brigg at the mouth of Nanticoke, one of the Sloops they brought up to Vienna mounts fourteen Eighteen Pounders of the new Construction We kept up a party of the Militia while they stay'd and they very punctually complied with the Terms of their Capitulation These Vessels are forageing for Arnold and as they were disappointed in the Quantity of Grain they expected to have got on Nanticoke and from Hints I hear they should have dropt I have Reason to think they will be in Choptank or Wicomoco River within two or three Days, They say, there are about forty flat bottom'd Vessels building at Portsmouth on a new Construction & they want Plank for them, they have taken two or three plank loaded Boats in Nanticoke. I wish our Craft from the lower Counties of this Shore could be restricted from carrying Lumber and Grain up the Bay for some Time as some disaffected People may perhaps dispose of their Loading to the Enemy March 13

[Roger Nelson to Coll. Uriah Forest, Annapolis] (ꝑ Capt Price) March 13 Red Book No. 29 Letter 43

Dr Coll[l] I shall esteem it a very singular Favor if you'd have the money drawn and lodged in the Hands of Capt Benjamin Price, that has been voted me by the Gen[l] Assembly of Maryland for the purpose of defraying expences from and to S. Carolina, upon the Buisiniss of the Southern Prisoners of the Maryland Line. It is absolutely out of my Power to be in Annapolis myself before it set out for the Southward.

[Rich'd Howly, Philadelphia, to Gov. Lee.] March 13 Red Book No. 5 Letter 68

Inclosed is a Majors brevet for Mr E. Giles, a Gentleman of your State which has been voted him by Congress for his Merit & Services. I do myself the honor, of transmitting it to your Excellency; with a request, it may be forwarded with convenient dispatch to the person for whom it is intended

[Garland Callis to Gov. Lee.] March 14

I have taken the liberty of writeing a few lines on the subject of my very disagreeable Situation. I labour under every disadvantage particularly that of my not having the Honor of being acquainted with your Excellency or any of the Honorable Council—and am Totally at a loss to conjecture what I can have done that renders such a situation necessary. Whatever act I may have committed I'll declare on my word and Honor has been done thro ignorance, and could wish my hart and sentiments as open to you and the

March 14 Honorable Council as day itself. Your Excellency may easily figure to yourself how exceedingly my feelings must be hurt on this occasion Having been over conscious to myself of the rectitude of my intentions—in whatever may have been transacted by me

And that of my having served in the Virginia line I trust with credit to myself and country is a further inducement at least on my part—to clear up every doubt which may have arisen respecting my attachment to the cause of liberty and my country. It is the utmost wish of my hart always to conduct myself in a manner which may gain me the esteem and good opinion of my countrymen my hart is warm on the subject and could feign hope—if I have been guilty of any impropriety—or if I have done any thing contrary to the Laws of my country, that it may be imputed to the fault of my head and not my hart, for on my sacred word and honor, as I said before if I have offended against the Laws it is thro ignorance and not design.

March 14 [Garland Callis to Gov. Lee.]

May it Please Your Excellency I have taken the liberty a second time of writeing you on the subject of my confinement. I have been waiting with the utmost impatience and anxiety for the Investigation of my conduct, respecting the letters Inclosed to your Excellency by Mr Sam Hanson. Being concious to myself that I intended by no means, to offend against the Laws of this State in the smallest instance or in any action of my life on any occasion whatever. Particularly respecting the before mentioned letters which I imprudently delivered, without knowing or supposeing it to be wrong after they were examined by the Commi^sy^ of Prisoners at Elizabeth Town. Being informed a day or two after the delivery of some of the Letters, that there was a Law in this State requiring all such letters should be laid before Your Excellency and Council. Immediately collected those that had been delivered, and inclosed them together with the balance that remained in my possession. I had not a doubt remaining but that I had fulfilled the Law or at least as far as I was made acquainted with it. I must intreat and beg of your Excellency together with the Honorable council that the matter may be immediately inquired into—and that I may have it in my power to clear my character of a charge which I can assure your Excellency among every thing else has ever been furthest from my thoughts I am confident your Excellency must be sensable of the feelings of a wife on such an occasion. My papers will take up but little time, and are of as little consequence with respect to any thing that may tend to the matter in question I am here without clothes or money which added to other things renders my situation truly distressing and have the misfortune to be very unwell.

[Col. Wm. Hemsley, Queen Anns County, to Gov. Lee.] March 14

About 2 oClock to day I rec^d a Letter from Col° P. Tilghman informing that the Enemy landed at Col° Lloyds this morning at 1 oClock and plundered him of all his plate money Cloaths &c & then went to Beal Bordleys who shared the same fate, they were 12 in Number; in two Barges. They used no violence to either of the Families, but kept the Col° safe until they had done their Business least he shou'd alarm the neighbourhood. I have just rec^d a letter from Mr Edwd Tilghman, to whom Mr Paca writes from the special Council that Col° Lloyd informed them, that ab^t 1 oClock he was attacked by ab^t 20 or 30 refugees who came in a Barge & plundered him to the am^t £5000 hard money and Mr Paca's Overseer says Mr Bordley had scarce anything left. Col° Lloyd lost 7 negroes and Mr Bordley 3. I have not been able to collect any Intelligence where the vessell lay, that the men landed from, therefore concludes they must have rowed up from Poplar Island. Mr Matt. Tilghman went from the special Council, with 50 men well armed & one feild peice down to the Bay side. I shall get out the Classes for this County tomorrow & hope you'll have some person ready to receive the recruits should any be obtained.

P. S. Charles Blake has upwards of 100 bb^s of flour at Emersons Warehouse & a Vessell came up to take it away last Night, I think it would be risking too much to send it by water, & if the Enemy send up an Armed Vessell they can get it all.

[R't. F. Hooe, Alex^a, to Gov. Lee.] March 14 Red Book No. 28 Letter 46

I do myself the Honor to enclose your Excellency Mr Mercers last letter.

Mr Custis writes me from Richmond on the 11th Curr^t as follows. The accounts from the Southward are very pleasing, a Letter from Genl Greene informs that he was only 6 Miles from Cornwallis with a superior force, and respectable reinforcements within a small distance Greens Cavalry not equal to Cornwallis's in number but superior in goodness. Nothing of moment had happen'd between the main Armies frequent Skirmishes which have generally terminated in our favor—the Enemy are much harrassed particularly their Cavalry which are almost broke down. We are hourly expecting to hear something Capital from the two Armies. Greenes Letter was dated on the Haw River ab^t 30 Miles south of Hillsborough Arnold is closely blocked up in Portsmouth—his stay there must be short, every preparation is making to dislodge him—he sent a party of 300 Men the other night over to Hampton under a Col° Dundas, who pushed as far as the half way House between York & Hampton and collected about 90 head of cattle, on his return he was attacked by a Col° Mallery with 40 Militia who recovered most of the Cattle

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No. 28
Letter 46

killed the first Lieut of the Charon & took 6 Prisoners. Col° Mallery & 7 others unfortunately fell in the Action. This small party of Men deserve much credit as they attacked the Enemy in a field. It is reported the french have taken the Charles Town frigate, formerly the Boston. A Gent this moment from frederick^g lodged there last night with a Capt Morrison of our Army, a Prisoner upon Paroll says that he left Cornwallis's Army 9 days Yesterday that he was but 2700 to 3000 strong, that the Tories were leaving him—that he was pinched for Provisions—that Genl Greene was more than two to one stronger, that Campbell & Selby had Joind our Army with 1400 Rifle Men—that Sumpter had 1500 Rifle Men in his front and that Greene was still getting stronger. I am sorry however to inform your Excell^y that by a letter from Col° Harry Lee, it is reported at Richmond that a dangerous and traiterous correspondence is detected between Genl Gregory and Arnold—that two Letters was taken in a boat pass^g from Gregory's Post to Portsmouth by wch it appears Gregory had bargaind with Arnold to deliver up the Army under his Command to Arnold—and that Genl Mughlenberg had arrested him—this Col° Lee gives only as report, but seems to write as if he believed it.

March 14
Red Book
No. 30
Letter 116

[Geo. P. Keeports, Baltimore, to Gov. Lee.] (Fav^d By Mr Poe)

May It Please Your Excellency Inclosed are the Returns of Ammunition &c. Delivered and Returned by the Privateers and Messrs Ridley and Pringles Bill for thread Stockings & Baizes. Which I have sent Mr John Muir and 170 Pair of Good Strong Shoes that I Purchased on a Fortnights Credit. 28 Pair @ 115 Dollars p^r Pair and 142 Pair @ 140 Doll^rs p^r Pair There is Shoes Offering Dayley and a Quantity might in a Short Time be Purchased But for Cash only.

At the Desire of General Buchannan I Request the Particular Favour of your Excellency to Grant me an Order on him for Money as he has some publick Money in his hands for Militia Fines and the 15 p^r C^t Tax which he says will Ease him of the Trouble of Delivering it into the Treasury & in the same Time will Render me Relieve and Enable me to pay off Those Labouring men that I have had Employed for the Publick Service who are in the Greatest Distress I have Already obtained Near £3000 from Genl Buchannan on Account which I hope will meet with Your Excellencys Approbation

General Gist has Drawn Orders on me for Ammunition for the use of the Fort and Arms for the Regular Troops which I have Complied with in Consequence of a Letter he shew'd me from your Excell^y Where you Mentioned that Inclosed was an Order on me to Furnish Arms Ammunition & Accoutrements for the Troops which Order must have been Forgotten as their was None Inclosed. Your

Excellency will Please to send me an Order for this Purpose for my Voucher and at the same Time will Please to Inclose me an order on Gen[l] Buchannan for 10 or £12000 March 14 Red Book No. 30 Letter 116

[James McHenry, V[oluntere] Aide de camp, Nesbit, to Gov. Lee.] March 14 ½ past 7 o'clock A. M. Red Book No. 32 Letter 51

Cap[t] McLane arrived here last night with a letter to the Commodore from the Marquiss, in which he states the force of the enemy at one frigate and a brig, then off S[t] Jeromes. Two vessels have come too this morning within five or six miles of the Nesbit, the same it is probable, that gave rise to the Marquiss's intelligence, but which the commodore does not think larger than sloops of war.

The Commodore is not apprehensive of danger from these Vessels, but as their real strength is yet to be discovered, or as they may be supported by others, perhaps your Excellency may judge it expedient to add to the precautions the detachment will necessarily take for its own Safety some which may be derived from the land batteries. These the Marquiss informed me were to be prepared for such an occasion. Cap[n] Nicholson is of opinion that we can receive the greatest support in case the enemy should prove our superior from the wind Mill fort near the town. Of whatever succour the troops can render for its repair or defence will be instantly afforded on your Excellency suggestion to Colonel Vose.

Upon further advising with Commodore Nicholson, I am persuaded we have nothing to apprehend but from disorder or defective arrangement

If a boat or fast sailing boat can be obtained it will be exceedingly useful for reconnoitring the enemy should we find them but little our superior, we shall make an assay of our own strength, as the fleet cannot suffer by our misfortune

[Jas Calhoun, Baltimore, to the Governor and Council.] March 15

I this Evening had the honour to receive yours of the 7th Ins[t] respecting the seizing of Meat and am in great hopes the necessity of making use of that to obtain the supplies is not so pressing as it was when your letter was wrote otherwise it would have been forwarded sooner

Our Markets have been very plentifully supply'd with Beef for some time past and I could have purchased on good terms double the quantity you mention if it were possible to procure money to pay for it but most of our supplies come a considerable distance and great part of it from Pensylvania therefore the seizing of one Beef at this place would immediately spread the alarm and effectually prevent the coming of any more for some time

I have already purchased & salted up within these few days 7 or 8000[#] excellent Beef and shall not loose a moment in endeavouring

March 15 to make up the quantity you desire (which hope can be done this week) on my own credit and with the Assistance of some Gentlemen of the Town trusting that your Board will send an order on the Collector of this County for the money to reimburse us, but cannot suppose it prudent to send any Provisions from hence by water whilst the Enemies ships are up the Bay, therefore shall wait your further orders in this matter as the danger has arose since the date of your letter.

March 15
Brown Book
No. 8
Letter 29

[Holker, Philadelphia, to Gov. Lee.]

The letter which you did me the honor of writing to me on the 16th February, after having reached Philadelphia, returned to Baltimore & from thence here, is now at hand, your Excellency & the Honorable the executive council, may depend, that I have & shall take decisive measures, to comply with their desire, & to procure the arms & cloathing they call for I have laid my plan before His Excellency the Chevr De la Luzerne, who approves of my views & is of opinion with myself, that his majesty's Ministers in france, will give every protection & facility consistent with the public Service. I have also forwarded to the Marquis de Castries Secretary of State of the Marine Department, the proposals of the Honble the Council, with your Excellency's letter, so as he may be acquainted with the urgent necessities of the inhabitants of Maryland, in order also that he may Judge of the practibility of uniting this business with the service of the navy, & for granting a permit for shipping the articles you want, on some of his Majestys frigates coming to America. I could wish that some such arrangement could take place not only in order to avoid paying a freight, which would be a considerable saving to the state, but also to ensure their arival, which is of much greater importance

the friends in france to whom I have applied are more of great worth, property, integrity & Spirit: they are in my opinion the most active & capable in that Kingdom, to execute this Commission to your utmost Satisfaction in every point of view & I have Strong hopes, though I dare not promise it, that they will go immediately to work so soon as my letters come to hand, Especialy as I am fully convinced, that the Minister of the royal marine will recommend it to them.

I shall deem it one of the most happy circumstances of my life, if my interference, can be any ways instrumental, in procuring any object which may contribute to the deffence or happiness of the Inhabitants of Maryland; my exertions shall be both strenuous & liberal. I shall deem the reward truly great, if I am so happy as to give satisfaction & to deserve the approbation of your excellency & the honourable Council: to convince you that these are my sentiments, I have pledged myself for the punctual execution of the

propositions of the Council, providing the transactions are as faithfully performed in france: I shall only add, that I rely entirely on your Excellency's promise; & I could wish you would strongly recommend to the next General Assembly, to pass such laws, as may ensure the means of complying with your part of the propositions on the arrival of the arms; that flour & tobacco good in quality, may be Stored in the Hands of proper agents, which must not be disposed of, for any other purpose whatsoever.

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No. 8
Letter 29

[Jos^{h} Merriken, to Honour^{e} The Councill]

March 16
½ after
4 o'clock

Gentlemen The Ships are Now Just below Sandy point and appear as if others were Coming too I have Twelve men only and they are badly Accoutred the men Complain badly as they have been on Guard this two days and have had no Rations tho we applied to Mr Crisall and he Refuses to Let us have any I shall be Glad to know what to do as it will be Impraticable to attempt to keep them together unless they are furnished with provision, it Could be had in the Neighbourhood if I had Authority from y^{r} Honours.

[James Sulivan, Com'y D. Coty., Dorchester Co^{ty} to Gov. Lee.]
(By Major Wright)

March 16
Red Book
No. 27
Letter 43

In consequence of your letter of the 7 Instant with what provision I have Rec^{d} for the present Assessment it is in my power to supply the 10,000^{lb} meat kind that you think will be wanted for the proportion for 30 days Consumption of 1500 Men under the Command of the Marquis De la Fayette

I would be glad to have your Instructions as soon as possible when the provision may be sent & in what manner you would choose to order the Beef on the Hoof as I have a large proportion of the above Quantity in that Article.

Your letter of the 10 of last month never came to hand untill the 28 wherein you request what provition that was purchased by the late Commissary might be sent to the head of Elk we then had the alarm here of the Enimy being up the bay thought it not safe to send it I would also be Glad to know if you would still want it sent to the head of the Bay

[Van Swearingen, Monongahela County, to His Excellency, Thos Sim Lee.] (Fav^{d} by Mr Chaplin)

March 16
Red Book
No. 27
Letter 42

A few days ago being at Fort Pitt was informed that Capt. Tawnyhill and Lieut Evins of Col^{o} Rawling's corps was reduced to half pay and ordered home, and knowing those Gent^{n} to be very useful in the Army and conceiving that your Excellency and Council might not be fully advised of the value of and the services those Gentlemen have rendered, having Taken the liberty to inform your Excellency of what I know of them, and as I am actuated by no other

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Letter 42

Principle but to serve the Cause of Virtue and my Country (the latter of which I am convinced would be much benefited by the Service of those Gentlemen in the field,) have taken the liberty though a stranger to trouble Your Excellency with this note.

Captn Tawnyhill and Lieut Evens served with me on Col^{o} Morgans Rifle core during the Continuance thereof and was at the seige and Capture of Burgoyne, and deported themselves as Officers Soldiers, and Gentlemen, Capt Tawnyhill went into the Service as early as 1775 as Lieu^{t} in a Rifle Core to Boston, the Year following was appointed into Col^{o} Stephensons Rifle Core, and Evins was appointed into Stephensons Core the same Yeare, have served on different Campaigns, and adarouss detachments perticularly with General Sulivan against the Seanacae Indians, and with the Commanding Officer of the western departm^{t} against the Mingoes, and in the whole of their Service have maintained Inexceptionable Characters.—

I have thought it my duty to inform your Excellency of those Circumstances, and hope this Letter may in some Measure have the effect designed which is to Justify Innocence and Love my Country.

I hope your Excellency will excuse this presumption on your Excellencys goodness and believe me to be with Sincere Esteem

March 16

[Donaldson Yeates, D. Q. M., Elk, to Gov. Lee.]

I rec^{d} your letter yesterday Afternoon acquainting me of the Situation of our fleet and troops and the two British Ships, previous to this I had dispatched two Vessels with Bread and flow'r for the troops, and an Express Boat with two large Packages for the Marquis, and sundrie Public letters, all which I have come up with and stoped from proceeding, till I receive further information, I have Just regained the Public Papers and send them forward by land, as I don't know where the Marquis is at present I have directed the riders to wait on you for orders with them, from this circumstance that has happened, it has delayed them one day, it was the Marquis's orders to me to provide express boats and send dispatches in that way I have three hundred Barrels of bread and flow'r shiped in these Vessels I have stoped, but no flesh provisions as yet, the day before yesterday I rec^{d} a letter under Cover from G^{l} Washington to the Marquis, but directed if he had embarked from this place to distroy it which I did, Col^{o} Miles advises me he was in Rhode Island. I have acquainted the Lieut^{t} of Kent County of the Brittish Ships passing Annapolis

P. S. I am requested to attend to fixing and keeping up a regular Chain of riders thro' this and the Delaware State, would it be Agreable to you to order such as are appointed by you for the State, to attend to the Passage of all Public papers and acquaint me with the terms usual in this case

[Wm McLaughlin, Baltimore Town, to His Excellency Thomas Sim Lee Esq[r]] March 17

May it Please Your Excellency The Commissioners of the Tax for this County have been Inform'd that there is a Supplement to the Supply Bill for this year Passed the last Session, and that the Assembly has settled the Exchange between New money and hard at Two of the new for one hard.

I have it Therefore in Command from the Commissioners to request Your Excellency to Transmit the Supplement by the Bearer hereof as the Commissioners Can't determine what Instructions to give me as Collector of this County without seeing the said Supplement.

[D. Carroll, Baltimore, to Gov. Lee.] March 18 Red Book No. 29 Letter 21 [Indorsed "Dan[l] Carroll of Balto."]

I am in a few days going to see a relative of mine D[r] Carroll of the Convention Troops now in Frederick Town, shall esteem it as a particular favour if you will grant him liberty to come & stay with me a few days or as long a time as you think proper I shall be answerable for his return when ever he is ordered, or by the time that is given to him is out

[Le Ch Dubuyson, Philad[a] to His Excellency Govr. Lee.] March 18 Brown Book No. 7 Letter 5

Before the departure of M[r] Henry & M[r] Platers from Philadelphia, I mentioned my wish that the State of Maryland would take into Consideration the two sons of my late Worthy friend the Baron de Kalb who nobly fell at the head of the Troops of your state. In Case the state grant the title of Citizens to those two Orphans, I wish at the same time they had a rank in the Troops of the line, they are from fourteen to sixteen years Old. Having not heard from M[r] Plater I mentioned this affair to M[r] Carrol who assur'd me, that part of my Petition had been Already granted; and that an Act had pass'd in favour of the Baron and his Family; which Act I should be much oblidged to your Excellency to send me; and if it is in your power, to procure the Commissions I could wish to have them forwarded with the Act. Your Excellency will please to Accept of my warmest thanks for the Favour confer'd upon your Excellencys most Obed. Hum. Servt.

[H. Hollingsworth, Head of Elk, to Gov. Lee] March 18 11 o'clock at night Red Book No. 30 Letter 111

And please Your Excellency We were allarmed here on Saturday night by a report of two arm'd Vessels stand[ing] up the Bay above Pools Island, which was pretty well quieted yesterday, as report by Post and otherway said they had fallen down as Low as your opposite Citty or Kent Island, but are now again allarm'd by a picket which I had requested to be kept a look out at Turkey point, that there is two Frigets and some other Vessles in the mouth of Elk River, which came up with the Last tide and appear to Intend up,

March 18
11 o'clock at night
Red Book No. 30 Letter 111

as I know of no object worthy of their notice above Patapsco Except the Vessles and Stores at this place, or perhaps the Vilage, we are collecting all the Militia (or rather the Inhabitants of the Vilage) to make the best defence we possibly can to night, which should the Enemy come in any force we are scarcely Equal to oppose them, but should they delay it untill morning I am in no doubt of collecting a sufficient number not only to cover the Vessles, and Stores, but give a pretty good account of the Enemy should they be daring enough to attempt anything above the narrows of the River, our Lieutenant is unluckely indisposed and Field officers Live at a distance, Capt Booth is doing all He can to Collect and arm the men as they come in, I am much in haste

March 18
Red Book No. 30 Letter 115

[Geo. P. Keeports, Baltimore, to Gov. Lee.] (Fav^d By Mr. Poe)

May It Please Your Excellency Since Writing the 15th Ins^t I have been Prevented Sending the Cloathing Mentioned, To Mr Muir for Want of a Conveyance the Cloathing and the Cloths Purchased of Mr H. Courtney are all Pack'd up and Ready to be Forwarded by the First Good Oppertunity.

I must Beg Leave to Inform your Excellency that the Late Alarm we had Here Occasioned by the Two Ships Going up the Bay I was Called on by the Militia Artillery Officers for Field Peices and Ammunition the First of which not Being Repaired were Useless and of the Latter There was not any Suitable made up (For the want of Money only) which Occasioned much unEasyness and Dissatisfaction with Numbers of the Inhabitants.

I have Engaged a Workman to make Wheels & Repair the Field Peices But he has Declined going on with the Work untill I Pay him as much Money as his work will Amount to Weekly. The Armourers Likewise that I have Employed Cleaning & Repairing the Arms have Refused Doing any more work Several Times but Through Perswasion and Getting Provision for them on Credit have Hitherto Pervailed on them to Continue Working, But shall not have it in my Power to get them to Continue at work Longer without I am Enabled to Pay their Wages for the Want of which they are in the Greatest Distress I yesterday Finished Casting Musket Balls of the Whole of the lead Lead that was in this Place which made about 5000 Ounce Balls the Half of which I have Given out to be made up and am to pay Ready Money for making the Cartridges your Excell^y will see By the Inclosed memorandum what Num^r of Musq^ts Cartridges are Ready Made and will Please to order more Lead sent me if you shou'd Judge it Necessary to have More Musq^t Cartridges made up The Great Distress I am in for Want of Money to have the Publick Business under my Care Executed and for my own Subsistance I Hope will Apologize for my Freedom of Making such Constant and Pressing Application for Money and Procure a Speedy Relief

[Norm'd Bruce to Gov. Lee.] March 19

The Bearer Mr Mungo Fairlie, a native of Scotland being lately made acquainted with some Family incidents, which requires his presence in the Place of his nativity, as quickly as possible, is therefore desirous of going by way of New York. I Venture to recommend Mr Fairlie to your Excellency & the Gentlemen of the Council as a Person to whom, that Priviledge may be granted, if admissable to any, for as Mr Fairlie has, ever since Septr 1776 been a near, and intimate neighbour, it has furnished me with an opportunity of knowing his Conduct, which I can safely aver, to have been entirely in offensive and quite agreeable to all his neighbours, who to a man, are all Zealous Friends to America. Should their be any impropriety in this Adress your Excellency will do me the Justice, to atribute it, to my ignorance, and a desire to serve a good neighbour and one I verily believe to be a worthy man.

[Wm. Sanders, South River, to the Council.] March 19 Red Book No. 27 Letter 45

Yesterday Evening the Barges from the Ships Chased a small Schooner Boat a shoar at my Landing on the Bay and By firing Signall Guns from the Boat the Barges retur'd and Quitted the schooner—wee this morn^g got the Vessell of and Carried her up the River—and also about dusk we saw a Canoe which Came a shoar with the Bearer Thomas Donnock and his Brother a Small Lad—the said Donnock Goes to the office with money to Exchange—he sais he lives in Dorchester County on the Eastern Shoar—he is well known to Mr James Tootle and Mr Joseph Dawson—they Can answer for him as he sais.

he has a Good deal of Con^l Money with him

[Thomas Williams, Prince Geo^s County to Governor Lee] March 19

I have sent up the deserter agreable to your Orders. Mr Henderson Committed him by the name of Lucas Ives, of the Pensylvania Line I refer to the mans own Account for particulars,

[John Smith Brookes, U. Marlbro, to The Honble The Governor & Council.] (Favour of Capt. Trueman) March 20

Your letter of the 7th instant did not reach me 'till the 17th which will account for your not hearing from me upon a subject so important. I proceeded immediately upon the execution of the business you gave me in charge and have collected about 20 very fine Cattle, and am in hopes in a day or two I shall be able to collect the whole quantity mentioned I beg you will give me your orders immediately, where I am to have them driven to, as your letter does not express the place. I have of my purchase about two thousand weight of salt provision on hand exclusive of what has been sent forward to

March 20 George Town. I have reason to be assured, that Mr Stephen Steward has a quantity of salt pork at Nottingham and Magruders—probably he may have engaged it for Publick use, if not, I shall be glad to receive your instructions respecting it—as Mr Steward is a Builder of Vessells I was doubtfull with respect to the propriety of the seizure. I am extreemly anxious to hear from you upon these matters and beg you will not omit the first oppertunity.

March 20
Red Book
No. 5
Letter 76

[Daniel Carroll, Philadelphia, to Gov. Lee.]

I write this from the presidents who is this moment sending of an express with intelligence from Genl Washington of the sailing of the French fleet from Newport on the Evg of the 8th Instant & of the sailing of the British from Gardiner Bay on the morning of the 10th. underneath is a list of the two fleets as I have been informed. We are anxiously expecting intelligence from the Southward.

State of the French Fleet	Guns	British	Guns	
Le Duc de Burgoyne	80	London	90	
Le Neptune	74	Royal Oak	74	
Le Conquerant	74	Bedford	74	Note A
Le Eveille	64	America	64	B.
Le Jason	64	Europe	64	
Le Ardent	64	Purdent	64	
Le Province	64	Adamant	50	
Le Fantasque [c]	64			
			480	
	548	difference	68	Guns
			548	
Frigates	Guns			
Romalus	44			
La Survillante	32	Frigates		
La Gentible	32	Guadalope	28	
La Hermione	32	difference	112	& 14
	140		140	14
La Guepe Cutter	14			

Note A the Bedford supposed to be refitted
B The America had returned to Gardiners Bay before the British Saild
C did not sail being an old Hospital ship

March 20
Red Book
No. 5
Letter 77

[Daniel Carroll, Philadelphia, to Gov. Lee.]

I did myself the honor of writing to yr Excellency a few times by express the 16th Instant, & inclosed a List of the force of the two fleets which lately saild from New Port & Gardiners Bay. One of

the French ships mentiond calld the Fantasque did not sail, being an old Vessel made a hospital Ship of, please therefore to correct the list. The Board of war refered to Congress two Letters from y^r Excellency on the Subject of Co^l Smith & the 4 Artillery company—these papers are refer'd to a committee of which I am one. I shall be glad to receive every information in y^r power on the Subject—particularly relative to the Artillery company. I believe there are among the Council papers some Letters from Genl Washington & returns show^g that almost the whole of Harrison's Reg^t of Artillery was compos'd of Maryland troops. Extracts of what may appear proper from these letters & a copy of the returns (which I cannot get from the board of war) may serve to put that business in a way to obtain justice. The State appears to have been injured by the arrangement, & some of her officers in consequence of it.

March 20
Red Book No. 5 Letter 77

[Joseph Dashiell, Wor. County, to Gov. Lee.] (By Mr. McBryed) March 20

I Rec^d a letter from the Mr J. T. Chase of the 27th Feb^ry requesting a return of all the provisions that had been procured by me, as Commisary of this County. I made a return last Winter when at the Assembly, and as soon as I Can see the persons Intrusted with that Business, in my absence, I will make a return of the Disposition of it, tho I am afraid we shall find Considerable Waste & Dammage in the Corn, which has bin Shipt & reshipt, on acc^t of the Navigation being stopt by the Enemy, I Believe that thirteen Bar: pork & about Twelve hundred b^bs of Corn is still on hand, which is at Snow hill & Mattapany the Militia officers has Drawn out of Our hands near all the Bacon and sum pork which I shall make a return of with their Receipts

I am Convinced that if no French Fleet arive nor we have no Navel force that the Militia heare will Consume all the Meat provision we Can procure and will not be able after all the Care that Can be Taken to prevent the Enemys getting suplyed, Except sum few Examples are made of those who furnish them provisions The Barer M^r McBry'd Can inform you of Our Situation and how Impracticable it is to prevent them getting suplys, with Out we had a Naval force

You may expect to heare from me in a few days by Mr Shockley, who I have apprehended, and shall send forward Next Tuesday

N B. My Bro: & my self have about fifty thousand pounds public money which we shall send in this week.

[T. Pickering, Q. M. G., Philadelphia, to Gov. Lee.] March 20

A few days since I was informed of a parcel of biscuit in this city which came from Maryland, & is said to be unfit for use. More of the same kind is baking at the Head of Elk & Baltimore But for more particular information I beg leave to refer your Excellency

Brown Book No. 8 Letter 2

March 20
Brown Book
No. 8
Letter 2

to the certificate of Mr Ludwick—Master Baker to the army, a copy of which is inclosed. Your Excellency may depend on his testimony, for he is a competent judge in his profession, and a very honest man. I thought it necessary to advise your Excellency of this matter, as my duty obliges me to direct my deputy and his storekeepers to receive no more such bread.

March 16
Brown Book
No. 8
Letter 24
[copy]

[Christophel Ludwick, Baker Master, Philadelphia, to Col. Pickering, Q. M. G.]

When I was lately at the Head of Elk and Baltimore I saw considerable quantities of hard bread or biscuit, which I found was baked for the use of the Army, About two hundred Barrels of the like kind of bread are now in this City, which were brought hither from the head of Elk; but the bread is so bad that even the prisoners of war in goal refuse to receive it. All such bread if sent to the Army will be condemned, & become a loss to the United States, in addition to the great expence attending the transportation of it, The materials of which that bread was made, were from its appearance, condemned flour with a large proportion of ship Stuff; and the preparing & baking them very badly performed

March 20

[Fran's Ware, Port Tobacco, to Colo John H. Stone]

The following Gentlemen are Recommended to fill Vacancys in The Militia of this County to wit. Bennet Dyson Capt of the Company formerly Commanded by Capt John Parnham Resign'd the 12 Batalion. Samuel Lucket Capt. Robert Tayler 1 Lieut Humphrey Posey 2 Lieut and George Dunnington Ensign of the Company Late Mastins 26 batalion, I Recd a Commission for Luckitt some time ago; Which I enclosed in a letter to him, but as it Never come to hand, Supose some mischievious person has distroyed it, Therefore beg you will furnish him another, as also the above mention'd Gentlemen by the first opertunity. I Recd your Favour pr Charles Willitt but it is not in my power as yet to place Him to a Class as We have not Compleetly settled them, but as soon as that is done, shall do What is necessary. I am sorry to inform you that it appears to me that we shall be able to Raise but very few Recruits in this County this year, having heretofore been much pillaged of our youth tho be assured Sr that I shall do every thing in my power to promote the Service,

March 21

[Jas. Calhoun, Baltimore, to the Governor and Council]
(Hand by Mr. Smith.)

Yours of the 19th was last night delivered me. Mr Smith who is the bearer of this has the quantity of Bread you require which he will either sell or exchange for Flour. As he goes to Annapolis have thought it most proper to refer the bargain to your Honble Board

but must observe that by the Law there is no Merchant Flour to be Manufactured unless ordered by the Governor & Council or the Com^y of the Shore and as these persons who mean to pay their Taxes in Flour will doubtless have it made of a quality most to their advantage submit it to your Honble Board whether it would not be proper to direct a certain quantity of the wheat to be Manufactured in a different manner March 21

I have not been able to procure any information from the County Commissaries as yet respecting their prospects of collecting Specific articles although I wrote to them individually on that head. Mr Griffith of this County is beginning to receive flour tolerable fast but no Meat and our Market for these several days past have fallen off amazingly in that article insomuch that I have been oblidged to break in on the quantity of Beef that was salted fit for the use of the Marquis Lafayette Detachment in order to supply the Issues at this Post which is now very considerable. I imagine the change of the money prevents people coming to Market at this time

[Th. Jefferson, Richmond, to His Excellency, President of Congress.]

March 21
Red Book
No. 5
Letter 54
[copy]

The inclosed letter will inform you of the arrival of the British fleet in Chesapeake Bay the extreem negligence of our Stationed Expresses is no doubt the Cause why has yet no authoritic Account has reached me of a General Action which happened on the 15th Instant about a mile and a half from Guilford Court house between Gen. Green and Lord Cornwallis, Capt Singleton an intelligent officer of Harrison's Artilliery who was in the action is this moment arrived here and gives the general information that both parties were prepared and desirous for action. The Enemy supposed about 2500 Strong, our Army about 4000. That after a very warm and general Engagement of about an hour and a half we retreated about a mile and a half from the Field in good order having as he supposes between two and three hundred killed and wounded—the Enemy between 5 and 700 killed and wounded—that we lost 4 peices of Artillery. That the militia as well as regulars behaved Exceedingly well. That Gen. Green he believes would have renewed the Action the next day, had it not proved rainy, and would renew it as soon as possible as he supposes—That the whole of his Troops both Regular and Militia were in High spirits and waiting a second Engagement. That the loss has fallen pretty Equally on the Militia and regulars. That Gen. Stevens received a Ball through the thigh, Major Anderson of Maryland killed and Capt Barrett of Washingtons Cavalry. Capt. Fountleroy of the same Cavalry shot through the thigh, and left in the field Capt Singleton having left Camp the day after the Battle does not speak from particular returns none such having been then made.

March 21
Red Book
No. 5
Letter 54
[copy]

I must inform your Excellency from him till more regular applications can reach you that they are in Extreme want of lead Cartridge paper and thread. I think it improper, however it might urge an instenious supply to repeat to you his state of the extent of their stock of those articles. In a former letter I mentioned to you the failure of the Vein of our lead mines which has left the Army here in a state of equal distress and danger

Look out Boats have been ordered from the Sea Board of the E. Shore to apprize the Commander of the french fleet on its approach of the British being in Chesapeake

Ibid.

[James Barron, Hampton, to His Excellency Thos Jefferson.]

Yesterday morning twelve large ships came within the Capes and anchored sent up one Frigate this morning under English Colours which proves them to be a British fleet. The frigate lies now in Hampton Road, with Arnolds Ships, the other Ships are still in the Bay at Anchor. I take them all to be men of War, and no transports among them.

March 21

[Rich'd Dallam, Harford County, to Gov. Lee.]

On Thursday the 15th Inst. I received Intelligence that two British Ships & some small Vessels lay off Pools Island that they had then land'd some Men & were taking off the Stock, I immediately orderd out two Companies of Militia nearest the shores to oppose their landing. On Saturday I was informed that they had gone off after robing Pools Island of 14 head of Cattle all the hoggs & Corn & the Overseer of his Bacon knives & Spoons and Capturing some small Vessels amounghts which unfortunately was a small schooner on board which was 100 Barrels flour I had forwarded, & to the Commy of Issues at Elk & also another with nearly the same Quantity belongg to Mr Thos Hall which he was sending up the Bay. On Sunday two Top sail Schooners & some Smaller Vessels returned & stood up towards the mouth Elk & since they are constantly Passing & repassing & have taken allmost all the small craft & I am just inform'd that last night they went up Susquehanah & took out a Vessel with 50 Barrels flour & as many of Bear belonging to Wm Cox. I have order'd out parties of Militia to different Posts the most likely for their landing tho they have never attempted landing or coming on Shore except at Pools Island

The Greatest force above Pools Island from my best Intelligence are the 2 Schooners above which have a Number of Tenders & Barges, Its said a Ship & a Brigg lay below Pools Island as this was the whole force of the Enemy I have not ordered out many of the Militia on this occation. I conjectured their great object in coming up was the Capture of the Transports with the Troops going down which happily escaped, I am sorry to inform your Excellcy that

their is a very Great Backwardness in their Militia to turn out And not knowing any Law that can force them I am much at a loss how to act March 21

If their should be an occation & our Men would turn out I am not able to Arm above 150 with Proper Musketts nor have I ammunition or Meat Provisions. I have sent to Baltimore & received some Powder & about 2000 Cartridges. As your Excellency must be informed of the Enemies Whole forces can form some good conjecture of their designs I should be happy to receive Instructions how to conduct myself & where to apply for such Articles as I may want I am apprehensive that if the Enemy command the Bay this summer we shall receive frequent Vessels from their Tenders & Armd Boats therefore wish to be directed as to the mode of defence most likely to be effectual to prevent their depredation.

If there is any late Laws for the regulation of the Militia I shall be obliged by having them sent by return of the post with Commissions for Officers agreeable to the Inclosed lists Who are now on duty & any Orders your Excellency may Plan to give

I hear of no Person being appointed In this County to receive & provide for the recruits obtain'd under the act to procure recruits. Three recruits are the whole yet obtained & they are rambling about which must be the situation of any others that may enlist Until I have Your Excellencies Orders

A List of Officers wanting Commissions, March 21 [Indorsed "Commis.iss^d 4 Ap^l 1781"]

John Day Junr Captn of a Com^y (of the 8th Battalion) lately command^d by Saml Groom Osborn. resignd being appoint^d Ass^r & Collector.

George B. Presbury 1st L^t in same Comp^y

Joseph Presbury Junr Ensign in D^o

Aron Grace. Capt of a Comp^y (in 23rd Battalion) lately command^d by Syrus Osborn resigned & removed to Balt Town.

David Thompson Lt. in D^o

[Edwd Gaither, Jr. Commissary of Provisions for Ann Arundel Co. Elk Ridge to the Governor & Council] March 21

I have delivered to Jno Chalmers order thirteen Head of Beef Cattle, which I have received. I expect to receive some more in a few days.

[Jos^h Merriken to His Excellency Thomas Sim Lee Esqr] March 21

the two Schooners are still up the Bay as I am Informed Lye of the mouth of Susquehanna River—I shall be glad to get a further Supply of Ammunition and some flints—I Received only one Hun-

March 21 dred Cartridges and they are divided between Captains Boone and Gray one at the Bodkin and the other at Sandy point if it appears Necessary S^r I should be glad to have a few arms and Accoutriments for we are but very Indeferently armed

March 21
Red Book
No. 7
Letter 1

[Sam. Huntington, President, to His Excellency, Governor Lee.]

Your Excellency will receive herewith enclosed, a Proclamation of the 20th Instant earnestly recommending that Thursday the third Day of May next may be observed as a Day of Humiliation, Fasting & Prayer by all the States.

March 21

[John Weems to Col° James Brice]

I have posted gards at the most Convenient places to prevent the Negros from going to the Enemy & Secur'd all Boats & Canoes. but it is not in the power of the Militia to prevent the Enemy Landing as they have neither Muskets powder nor balls if you Could Let me have Sixty Good arms Complet I think Could put them in the hands of them that would make use of them Capt Deale waits on you with this and will take Care of what armes &c that you think proper to send.

N B. 60 Muskets Compleat; Powder & Ball; Cartridges & paper; 120 Gun Flints.

March 21
Red Book
No. 29
Letter 46

[Wm Winder, Gilliss Polk, John Williams, Joseph Venable, George Waters, John Span Conway, Henry Jackson, L Woolford, John Done, W. Gilliss, Henry Waggaman, Isaac Henry, Esme Bayly, Thos Hayward, Lambert Hyland, James Haynir, Wm Polk, Thos Irving, John Evans (of Nich^s), Wm Strawbridge, Denwood Wilson, John Denwood, Wm Waters of W^m, Josiah Polk, George Handy, Wm Horsey, Somerset County, Maryland, to the Council.]

We are informed that at the last Session of Assembly an Act passed for either building or Purchasing Armed Vessels for the Defence of the Bay and Sound. The Defenceless situation of the Rivers and the much exposed Inhabitants in this Part of the State loudly call for assistance. The numberless Depredations committed with Impunity by Picaroons, and the Prospect of the Continuance of such Outrages clearly Point out the immediate Necessity of adopting some effective Measures to check their Progress and give some security the ensuing Summer to those who live contiguous to Navigation

We are apprehensive that we should derive capital Advantage from an Armed Boat the Construction of which has been suggested by a Gentleman in this Part of the County well acquainted with maritime Affairs. Capt. Zeekiah Walley the Gentleman who has been kind enough to offer us the following Plan is not only well

acquainted with his Duty as a Sea officer, but whose Integrity attachment and unexceptionable Character renders Him in our Judgment a Proper Person to carry it into execution. He proposes to build a Barge about 50 feet by the Keel, to carry about 60 men, and a 24 Pounder in her Head. He informs us he can Procure such a Gun that will weigh less than an 18 Pounder, and that such a Barge could be built for 150£ hard money. He further informs us that he will, without fee or Reward superintend the Building of such a Vessel if the Measure should be thought adviseable, and that he is of opinion he could procure the necessary hands if he could be furnished with the means of Punctual Payment. That this or some other Defensive Measure is necessary our Distresses clearly evince, and should your excellency and Council Judge such a Plan expedient we hope it will be adopted. March 21 Red Book No. 29 Letter 46

[Chas. Blake, Queens Town, to His Excel: Thos S. Lee Esquire] (Favors of the Hon. Saml Wright Esqr) March 22

I have the honour to inform yr Excel: that the quantity of Meat desir'd in yr letter of the 7th of this instant is obtain'd 2090 pounds of salt pork and bacon the rest beef on the hoofe except 1802 pounds of beef killed before I had intelligence of the Enimys Vessels, which is well salted. What remains on the hoofe I shall keep so till farther orders least it should spoil. I have about seventy barrels besides the above, reddy to send off when order'd. None of the provisions are on the water they are at three miles distance. The Vessel prest by yr warrant has gone off, and by information is taken, I hope when the Owner returns you will enable me to make an example of him to prevent others from doing the same

[John Smith Brookes, Upper Marlbro, to The Honbe The Governor & Council.] (p Mr. Lansdale) March 22

I did myself the honour to write you a few lines by Captn Trueman two days agoe praying your instructions respecting the Beef which I seized in Consequence of your orders. I have with great labour and pains procured the quantity you requested, and am very anxious to have your directions respecting it, and pray you again to write me on the subject. My Demands for money is very great, and the people I have heretofore purchased of, complain of me very loudly, pray if its in your power furnish me with about 500£ State Currency. I am indebted about that sum I am very anxious to hear from you

[Rich'd Henderson, Bladensburgh, to Gov. Lee.] March 22

The bearer Mr Mungo Fairly, who I believe associated, but refused to swear to support the Independance of the State, expecting to pass the greatest part of his life where he was born, in Scotland,

March 22 is now desirous to leave the State, in the manner that he has lived in it, which I understand to have been candid & inoffensive; and if so, being entitled to a different treatment from those who have behaved in a different manner, I with pleasure introduce him to your Excellency; petitioning you & your Honourable Council, for leave to pursue a duty which it seems he owes to his Relations since the death of his mother, by the way of N York, if it can be consistently allowed of; if not, for leave to depart the State by the West Indies, which in case of his being taken by our Allies may assist him greatly in passing to his native country, and on the ratification of our Independence, may introduce him more honourably, in case of his desiring to become a Citizen of the State, than if he went privately away. But if neither of his requests can properly be granted, I hope mine will, that this letter may give no offence to those whom I so much respect

March 22 [Jos^h^ Merriken to Hononb^le^ J. H. Stone Esqr in Councill]

I shall be glad to have by the Bearer forty Musketts and accoutriments and his Receipt shall be good.

P. S. it appears difficult to furnish the Guard with Salt provision a few days Longer—Mr Govane has a Quantity of Salt meat but wont sell without ready money for further Particulars Enquire of Mr Boone. J M.

March 23 [Corn's Garretson, Baltimore Town, to Gov. Lee] (p. Mr. R. Key.)

Your Word to me when I was last in your City, and had the Honor verbally to petition your Excellency for Thomas Horn's not Horner's Pardon, I know you think binding. Let this therefore be the Form of a Petition for that Purpose. As to Keith, whom your Excellency was so good as to promise me a Pardon for also, he being an Accomplice; broke the Jail above ten Months ago and has not been heard of since, but I knew nothing of that when I ask'd your Excellency to Pardon Horn.

N. B. It was in Horn's Power to make his Escape at the Time Kieth went off and would not.

March 23 Red Book No. 8 Letter 42 [Sam. Huntington, President, Philadelphia, to Gov. Lee.]

Your Excellency will receive herewith enclosed, two Acts of Congress of the 16th & 23^d^ Instant, directed that all Debts liquidated in or contracted for Specie Value shall be paid in Specie or other Money equivalent according to the current Exchange compared with Specie.

Also recommending to the several States to amend these Laws making the Bills of Credit emitted under the Authority of Congress a legal Tender in any other Manner than at their current Value compared with Gold & Silver.

But what will more particularly claim the Attention of your Legislature as of great Importance, is, the requisition for six Millions of Dollars, that is, one Million & an half of Dollars to be paid Quarterly, the first quarterly Payment to be made on the first Day of June next, the Quota of each State being apportioned in the enclosed Act, and Payment to be made on this requisition as also the several others therein referred to in Gold or Silver, or Bills emitted by any of the States whatever in Pursuance of the resolutions of the 18th of March 1780 March 23 Red Book No. 8 Letter 42

This Assessment is not to be considered as the Proportion of any State, but being paid is to be adjusted & settled with Interest in Future upon equitable Principles in the Manner expressed in the Act.

It is with reluctance that Congress is compelled to make this requisition but the absolute Necessity of the Case will appear so obvious that we presume the respective States will yield a ready & chearful Compliance therewith to the utmost of their Power.

[James Lloyd, Talbot, to The Honble the Council for the Eastern Shore of Maryland] March 23

I made application some time ago to the Governor and Council for a command in the Select Militia the result of which I have not yet been made acquainted with. Should any events take place to induce your honorable Board to appoint the officers to the volunteers of this shore I request the favor that my application may be remembered. I would have it understood to be for such a Commission not under a Majority as your Honors may think me, by the Act for embodying the select Militia, eligible to. I served the Campaign of 1777 as volunteer Aid de Camp to General Greene to which at that time was annexed the rank of Major. I need not adduce any Arguments, I presume to prove that I am, agreeable to the spirit of the abovementioned act, eligible to an appointment on this Service. I hope there will be no doubt concerning the matter and I beg leave to assure your Honors that the greatest favor you can do me will be your putting it in my power to be serviceable to my Country

Your Honors will be so good as to favor me with your determination concerning my application as soon as conveniently may be after it has been made.

[Chev. de la Luzerne, Philadelphia, to Mr Lee, Gouverneur du Maryland] March 23 Brown Book No. 7 Letter 27

Monsieur: Je viens de recevoir l'annonce de l'expedition prochaine d'une seconde Escádre destinée à cooperer avec les forces des treize Etats contre l'Ennemi commun. Il est impossible d'assigner l'époque de Son arrivée sur les côtes de ce continent, mais je présume qu'elle ne sera pas eloignée lorsque Vous recevrés ma lettre. J'ai crũ devoir

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faire part confidentiellement de cette nouvelle à Votre Excellence, mais je Vous prie de vouloir bien n'en faire usage que pour accroitre encore le courage de Vos concitoyens en les assurant qu'ils peuvent compter sur l'assistance la plus éfficace de la part de S. M. sans leur annoncer la nature du Secours qu'ils doivent recevoir. La cause de l'independance ne peut cesser d'être chere au Roy et il est determiné à faire les plus grands efforts pour la Supporter. Il est indispensable que de leur coté les treize Etats se préparent sans le moindre delay à des efforts vigoureux. La Campagne qui va commencer ne pas manquer d'être decisive si les forces Françoises en arrivant en Amériquee trouvent toutes les dispositions nécéssaires faites pour entrer en activité. Les Sacrifices que les Citoyens peuvent faire dans cette circonstance leur épargneront selon toutes les apparences des pertes que la prolongation de la guerre ne peut manquer de leur occasioner. Je ne suis pas assés à portée du théatre politique de l'Europe pour juger de l'effet que produira le changement de Scene arrivé par la Declaration de guerre des Anglois contre les Hollandois, mais l'ensemble des Affaires est tel qu'il est devenu essentiel pour les treize Etats unis de deployer la plus grande energie et de ne pas laisser à leur Ennemi les tems de former des alliances qui Pourrvient occasioner un changement total dans l'état des affaires. Cettes des Alliés sont dans cette circonstance dans une Situation avantageuse, il faut en profiter & redoubler de tous cotés les efforts contre l'Ennemi; nous attendons impatiement des nouvelles de l'Escadre de M. Destouches, destinée à agir dans la Chesapeack. L'Amiral Arbuthnot l'a suivi, mais on n'a jusqu'ici aucune nouvelle ni de l'un ni de l'autre.

Le Maryland viennt de donner une preuve éclatante de Son attachement aux principes de la confederation par son accession; il a fait dans le cours de cette guerre les efforts les plus honorables pour le Soutien de la revolution; je ne puis douter qu'il ne les continue dans le cours de la Campagne prochaine et ils sont d'autant plus nécéssaires qu'il est certain que le plan des Anglois est de former quelque etablissement dans la Baye de Chesapeack pour en desoler le commerce et les côtes.

J'ai l'honneur d'être avec un respectueux attachement, Monsieur, De Votre Excellence le très humble et très obéissant Serviteur.

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Letter 46

[John Swan, Anapolis, to Gov. Lee.]

I am informed you are about to contract for the building of some Galleys for the defence of the Bay and State, which information now induces me to make Your Excellency & Council an offer of the galley Conquerer which will not only be much sooner repaired than one can be built but will be much cheaper and answer every purpose that one intirely new would. Her Timbers and all the Iron work being perfectly sound, so that a new Bottom and rigging is her principal wants, should Your Excellency & Council be of opinion that

this would be the most frugal and eligable plan for You to proceed upon I will agree any Carpenter a judge of work shall examine and set a price upon the Hull, which may be repaired and at Sea in a month

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Letter 46

[W. Smith to His Exy Thomas S. Lee Esqr In Council.]

March 24
Saturday
Morning
Red Book
No. 32
Letter 42

As I have rec^{d} orders to remove the bread in my possession from the several Bakehouses to the Kings Store & transport a part thereof to Delaware. I would be glad to know the determination of y^{r} Exc^{y} & the Honble Council as soon as convenient on that head, If you choose to have any part thereof it will be unnecessary to go to the expence of removing it from where it now is untill delivered to your order. I believe the quantity you want can be delivered at a short notice.

I will either take 17/6 ꝑ hundred or 1^{lb} of merchantable flour. If it is not convenient to make immediate payment I will wait a reasonable time, and take the exchange at the time payment is made; but should that exceed a month or two interest will be expected, your answer by Mr Ridley on Monday will oblige

On looking into the order delivered me last night for the flour, I find I am to receive but 75 b^{les} of flour for 506 B. of wheat. I tho^{t} it had been determin'd to pay the same weight in wheat. If this is a mistake your Ex^{cy} will please to have it rectifyed you'll also please to observe that the order does not specify any weight of flour, but the number of barrels.

[Willm Wilkins, Annapolis To the Honble the Governor and Council]

March 24

At what Price is the Cloathing furnished the Troops of the Maryland Line (not properly chargable to the Continent) to be charged? are they to pay the Price at which the same might have been bought at the commencement of the present war, the Price directed by a Resolution of Congress of the 25th Novr 1779 or the Price at the Time of Delivery?

To The Honble The Govournor

[Endorsed "Referred to the Commissioners for Settling & adjusting the Pay of the officers & Soldiers of the Troops of this State."]

[War Office, Philadelphia, to Colonel James Wood, Superintending the Convention prisoners.]

March 24
Red Book
No. 7
Letter 205

The very considerable desertions which have prevailed among the Convention prisoners and the repeated neglects on the part of the British Generals to pay for their support have long been matters of serious Consideration and furnish undeniable proof of a System, the evils attendant on which require an immediate remedy.

March 24
Red Book
No. 7
Letter 205

You are therefore hereby directed to cause the non commissioned Officers and soldiers of the British Convention Troops to be forthwith closely confined and effectually guarded, so as to prevent them from escaping to the Enemy. It is hoped that none of their Officers will attempt to hold any correspondence with the Enemy, or take or conceive of any steps to promote the escape of the non Commissioned Officers and privates. But should such conduct be discovered the Officer or Officers so demeaning him or themselves are to be deemed and treated as having broken their paroles. Untill you are informed of payment being made for Provisions and transports heretofore furnished these prisoners, as stipulated in Article 5th of the Convention, you will issue no more or other provisions to those, than are usually issued to prisoners of war.

The Officers of the British are to be put on their parole and sent to Simsbury in Connecticut, where they can be more conveniently quartered than at present. The non commissioned Officers and privates, are to remain at Frederick Town in Maryland and be closely confined But if there are any other places of security in that State wherein any part of them may be safely kept, you have liberty of seperating them into such Detachments for this purpose, as you shall think proper of the Governor and Council of the State of Maryland (with whom you will consult) should deem any other place or places proper for the Confinement of the Prisoners within that State, you will accommodate your orders to their Views and directions. The German non-commissioned Officers and Privates, are to remain near the town of Winchester in Virginia and to be confined to the Barracks built there, by order of the State of Virginia, and their Officers are to be on Parole, within the County of Frederick in that State, and to be limited to a District, not exceeding ten miles in Circumference.

No transportation at the Expence of the United States, is to be hereafter allowed these Troops, and you will take care to limit the number of waggons and Horses to be hired by them, for the purpose of transporting themselves or their baggage, and also the number of Horses to be kept by the Officers, and the prices to be by them given, for forage for their Horses, or Provisions for themselves. It has been alledged that the best Horses in the Country have been purchased by the Officers, and on their being exchanged, have been carried in to the Enemy, in considerable numbers. This practice has a dangerous tendency, and you will take every measure in your power, to discountenance and prevent it.

We rely on your discretion, for anything not particularly directed, and make no doubt, that you will in concurrence with the Executives of the States of Virginia and Maryland (to whom we shall write on the Subject) take the most effectual measures for the Superintendance and safe keeping of the Prisoners committed to your care. You will also assemble all the Cowpen and other unconditional pris-

oners of war in these two States at some convenient places, and send them under proper Guards to Lancaster in Pensylvania where they will be received by a Guard of Militia of that State. It is better for the Virginia Guard to go the whole way for reasons obvious to yourself. (See page 150) March 24 Red Book No. 7 Letter 205

[M. Bayly, Fred^k Town, to Gov. Lee.] (p. Col^o Thomas.) March 25

I Gratefully acknowledge your particular attention in appointing me Auctioneer for Fred^k County. Col^o Thomas having appointed me to the Command of the Guard and Convention Troops by Authority recv'^d from you and Council, I conceive it one part of my duty to transmit your Excellency and Council the returns of the Conventioneers to shew you the present State of them which you will find enclosed. My appointment to receive the recruits for This County I have Rec^d the Execution of which shall be faithfully attended to, and every method taken to prevent Desertion shall be adopted.

Present State of the British Troops under the Convention of Saratoga

Frederick Town 16th March 1781

	Commission						Staff												
	Brig^d General	Lt Colonels	Captains	1st Lieutenants	2^d Lieutenants	Ensigns	Maj. of Brigade	Surgeon of the Hospital	Pay M. General	Commiss^y General	Ass. Commiss^rs	Chaplains	Adjutants	2 Masters	Surgeons	Mates	Serjeants	Drummers	Rank and file
Total	1	2	7	13	3	6	1	1	1	1	3		1	2	3	3	107	54	610

Casualties since last Return

	Ser^t		Drum^rs		Rank & file
Gone with exchanged Off^rs	1	—	3	—	28
Deserted	"	—	5	—	34
Dead	"	—	"	—	2
Reduced to Private	2	—	"	—	2
	3		8		66

Note—The Serg^t marked exchanged got a passport from Col Wood

Jno Hill Lt Col^o 9th Reg^t

March 25 [Richd Barnes, Leo^{d} Town His Excellency Thos Sim Lee Esqr]

From the information I have rec^{d} of the Select Militia we have about seventy engaged for that service, which I now inform you of in order that we may be supplyed with that quantity of Arms, which are necessary for us to make any tolerable defence for the protection of the Cal^{ry} And unless something is done for the securety of the Inhabitants, bad consequences may arise, as I have been well informed that many of the Inhabitants of the Co^{ty} on the water had much rather lay at the mercy of the Enemy than have the Militia called to protect them owing as I suppose to their knowledge of the defenceless situation they are in If we could be supplyed with about seventy stand of Arms more than what we have I shuld be glad of your opinion whether it would not be advisable, whilst the Enemy are in the Bay to keep about sixty more men constantly patroling from one part of the Co^{ty} to the other in order to prevent disatisfaction and the negroes going to the Enemy as from the late conduct of the Negroes when those Ships were in St Marys I am well satisfied the greatest part of them that are in the Co^{ty} would join them, as I am well informed upwards of twenty five offered themselves to those Ships the night they were in St Marys. Your answer to the above will oblige Your Most ob^{t} serv^{t}

March 25
Red Book
No. 5
Letter 53

[John Hanson and Daniel Carroll, Philadelphia, to the Governor and Council.]

As we have allready requested of your Excellency and the Hoñble Council, a supply of Cash, we have only to add, that the new Bills Issued under the Act of Congress of the 18th March will answer our purposes, And that we hope we shall be supplied soon with a thousand dollars each of that Emission for which we will account at the Current Exchange

We are honored with your Excellencys favour of the 23^{d}

March 26
Red Book
No. 32
Letter 39

[Jas Hamilton, Frederick's Town, to Gov. Lee.]

I have the honor to inform you, that Mr D. P. Master Genl Geddes & Mr Weir Surgeon Genl are served writs at the instance of Serg^{t} McLean of the 21st Reg^{t} for monies due him by those two Gentlemen during the time he acted as Clerk to the Governor, which Debt neither of them refuse; But was postponed paying till such time as inquiry was made whether or not said Mc Lean had not indeavor'd to pass more Bills than that of a hundred pounds he was lately tryed for at the Court here, and which tho' acquitted by the Court for want of evidence bears the strongest marks he was concerned in.

Those reasons with that of every officer of the Convention Troops being liable on the same account to be sent to Prison for the Debts due the Men & which from situation renders it impossible to be paid, will I hope weigh with Your Excellency & Council to interpose your Authority, as Business the most material we have, now cannot go on without it. March 26 Red Book No. 32 Letter 39

The Troops who are order'd to March on Wednesday have this Day forty seven of meat due them. Nor can they be furnished with five Days for the March. Mr Murdock saying he has it not in his power, from what Causes I leave him to explain at the same time must observe, that the usage the Troops have met with is not what I had reason to expect, nor can I see with common humanity how they can be moved without Sustenance after Starving so long.

[Sam Huntington, President, Philadelphia, to His Excellency, Governor Lee.] March 26 Red Book No. 8 Letter 44

Your Excellency will receive enclosed an Act of Congress of the 24th Instant, requesting the Execution of the State of Maryland to pay to Colonel James Wood fifteen thousand Dollars of the old Emissions or an Equivalent in new Bills emitted in Pursuance of the Act of Congress of the 18th of March 1780, and charge the same to the United States.

[David Poe, Baltimore, to Gov. Lee.] March 26

I Recd your Excellencies Favours of the 22d Inst and in Compliance to your orders have sent to your City forty Nine Barrels of Flour the Invoice I have Inclosed to the Commissary of Issues belonging to the Detachment. I should be glad to know as soon as Convenient if there will be any more Bread or Flour wanting, as it will take some time to Provide Teams

[Geo. Salmon, Baltimore, to Gov. Lee.] March 26 Letter Book No. 27 Letter 48

Without having the pleasure of your acquaintance permit me to address you in behalf of a poor Man confined in this Jail—his name is Thomas Short, he was taken by the Sloop Porpus when cruizing in our bay & has been here ever since—his situation is realy distressing as he was returning to this Country & was taken off our Capes & carried to New York—he was there so cruelly treated on board the Prison ship that in order to put an end to it he agreed to enter on board a Vessel bound to this Bay on a Cruize—in expectation of having it in his power to make his escape—& before he cou'd put that scheme in execution the Vessel he was on board was taken by the Porpus—he has a Wife & some Children in Philada in great distress & anxious for his return—he is well known there as several Gentle-

March 26 Letter Book No. 27 Letter 48

men in that City have requested I wou'd endeavour to have him liberated, & as he is willing to take the proper Oaths, I am in hopes your Excellency will order the poor Man his release

March 26 [Leigh Masters, Baltimore To His Excell^{y} The Governor & The Honble Council.]

I hope Your Excellence & y^{l} Honble Council will excuse me giving this trouble to beg you will allow me to go back to New Providence.

I have this day been with Genl Guist imagining he had power to allow me to sail but he said he thought it was out of y^{l} Line of his province So recommended me to write to Your Honours. I therefore beg you will be so good to take my case into Consideration which I hope you will think me impertinent in saying is hard & peculiarly so as I am under the necessity of returning before next March to save my Estate which inclines me to hope you will allow me to sail without any further delay & Your Honours will greatly oblige.

March 26 Red Book No. 7 Letter 173

[Richard Peters, War Office, to Gov. Lee.]

Since the Resolution of Congress relative to the removal of the Convention Troops they have been pleased to refer the matter to this Board to Take Orders and we have given the enclosed Instructions to Col. Wood who has the Superintendance of those Troops and he is gone forward to put these orders in Execution which are expressive of the sense of Congress on the Subject. The Instructions will explain themselves and the present Circumstances of Affairs make the measures therein directed absolutely necessary. We therefore hope for the Concurrence and Assistance of your Excellency and the Honorable Council in carrying them into effect. (See page 145)

March 26 Red Book No. 27 Letter 47

[Thos. Sprigg, Co. Lt, Elizth Town, to Gov. Lee.]

Inclosed is a return of two Companies of Select Militia in Washington, Your Excellency will please inform me by Capt. Ott if any more men may be added to these Companies provided they should offer.

I have also sent an Acc^{t} of two recruits passed under an Act of June Session " to procure recruits to Compleat the Battalions of this State &c " they are now on duty at Fort Frederick & may be march'd with the recruits now raising in this County in which business we are tolerably successful

We wish to have the person here who is to take charge of & provide Necessaries for our recruits

NB The vacancy which John Kyger fills in the 1st Comp^{y} of the second Battalion of Militia in this County happened by Lt George Sharar resigning.

[M. Gist, Baltimore, to Gov. Lee.]

March 27
Brown Book
No. 3
Letter 22

I did myself the Honor when last at Annapolis to lay before Your Excellency and Council a plan for establishing six places of rendezvous for the quota of Troops to be raisd by this State, which I flattered myself wou'd meet your Approbation; but not hearing from you since on that Subject I take the liberty of repeating the proposition, and beg the favor of your determination thereon. The situation of the Enemy in our Bay, as well as the advantage arising from the appointment of Officers to discipline the Troops at these places, and the difference of expence in the Commissaries, and clothing departments, will on examination display the utility of the measure.

The Officers under my command in this State were sent from Camp for the express purpose of assisting in raising equiping and disciplining the Recruits, these services cannot be renderd by them, if the mode prescribed by the letter of the recruiting Act should be adopted, in that case the Officers can have no military duty to engage there attention; The Recruits rais'd will lose the advantage of order, regularity, and discipline and in case of an Invasion of the State, neither of them will be capable of rendering immediate or effectual Services; as a considerable time must elapse before they can be drawn to a point to operate against any force of the enemy.

While the British Fleet continue in Command of our Bay, they can obtain the best intelligence of our situation from whence any posts of consequence, left in our undefensible State, may probably become objects of their attention. This place in its present situation (if attack'd) wou'd fall an easy conquest to a small Body of Troops as the whole system of defence is totally derang'd; even to the want of Musket Cartridges; the Commissary of Military Stores having no more on hand than woud be sufficient to compleat 200 Men with 20 Pounds.

The Detachment preparing at this place for Camp are much in want of Clothing I have directed Mr Denny to forward such Articles as are ready at Annapolis by the provision Waggons, and to wait on Your Excellency & Council for an Order on Mr Keeports for shoes

[Joseph Wilkinson, Calvert County, to Gov. Lee.]

March 27

In consequence of five of the enemys Vessells laying of the Clifts—I have ordered the Militia on Guard, And directed them to secure all Craft on the Bay & River,

The enemy has been several times in the mouth Patuxent, they landed last Wednesday night in St Marys and plundered several Gentlemen of the whole of their furniture, wearing apparel, corn meat &c If my proceeding in ordering out the Militia should meet with your Excellencys approbation. I hope you will give directions about supplying them with provisions.

March 28
Red Book
No. 30
Letter 117

[Geo. P. Keeports, Baltimore, to Gov. Lee.]

May It Please Your Excellency

I Received your Letter of the 19th Inst: with an Order on General Buchannan for £10.000 and the Order for Delivering Arms Ammunition &c to General Gists Orders I have Received But £476..5. from Genl Buchannan Since the Receipt of the order £60 of which is Convention Money (and he says he Cannot Tell when he Can Give me any More as he paid Mr Jas. Calhoun the Whole of the Money he had Collected) which sum is so Triffling that it is scarce worth Naming In Comparison to the sum Wanting to Relieve my Distress which is so Pressing for Money that I Cannot Avoid Supplicating Your Excellency for a Speedy Relief.

As your Excellency did not Give me any Answer Respecting Lead to have more Musquet Cartridges made up and the Whole of the Ammunition for small Arms Ready made Here is But a small store If this State shou'd be Invaded, I have with the advice of Genl Buchannan purchased 140lb Wt of Lead from Mr Stephen Steward at 30 Dollars pr lb

Since my Last Letter Richard Dallam Esqr Lieut of Hartford County has sent Expresses to me for Ammunition for the Use of the Hartford County Militia which Orders I have Complied with & Hope your Excellency will approve Thereof and send me Instruction how I am to Act in a Circumstance of this Sort as my Express orders have Hitherto been to Deliver Ammunition to Genl Buchanan or his Order Only

I have Purchased 105 Pair of Shoes more Since my Last at a Fortnights Credit at 140 Dollars pr Pair

March 29

[T. Donnellan, Baltimore, to Gov. Lee.]

Your Excellencys Commands of the 22d & 24th Instant have been duly attended to and Flour sent down accordingly

I once more take the Liberty of requesting to be furnished with Money to discharge the Debts Contracted by me for accot of the State & also to answer my own Necessitys wch are realy very great.

Our County Collector abounds in Cash at present as the Tax comes in very fast. I therefore Pray that your Excellency will send me an order on him for such sum as you think convenient

March 29

[Jas. Williams, Annapolis, to the Governor and Council.]

I have three Gallies: which I will sell for £500 specie Viz. the Annapolis Baltimore & Conqueror or will sell either one or two of them for £200 specie a ps the Annapolis Gallie has cost me upwards of £250 Specie for Carpenters work done to her; besides the first Cost.

The Annapolis & Baltimore lay at Baltimore & the Conqueror here—the above sum is not more then the cost of the Iron Work in them. March 29

[John Smith Brookes, U. Marlbro, to The Honb^le The Governor & Council.] (By Capt. Clegett) March 30

My necessity presses me again to urge the favour, of your supplying me with a sum of Money about £500 would pay my debts and enable me to send forward the Beef to Frederick, I have not a shilling even to pay the drivers expences to Frederick or I should have sent them off before this—my cattle are now all collected and I shall send them off on Monday if you enable me to pay the Expences of driving.

[Thos. Johnson Esq. Fred^k Town, to Gov. Lee] March 30 Red Book No. 4 Letter 116

Col^o Wood just now called on me and shewed me the late Resolution of Congress respecting the British Convention Troops from which it seems we are still to have them in our State at such place as our Executive may direct. I think he told me that he should inclose you a Copy. Inconvenient as it is to have them in our State at all and disagreeable as it is to the Individuals who are in the same Town with, and it is not more so to any Body than myself I should not have so much Repugnance to their being here if I did not believe the public Safety eventually in Danger we are too near the Water peopled and armed as we are to have such a number of the Enemy with us at a Time when every Thing points out the views of the British to be against Virg^a and this State. As the prisoners are to be removed from Fort Fred^k may it not be proper to remove the conventioners to that place a push for their Release would not so probably be made or if made so likely succeed. Col^o Wood keeps it a secret that the Officers and men are to be separated and designs to do so till things are ripe to prevent a great Desertion which he is apprehensive of if they know any thing of the late Orders. I flatter myself that you'll excuse my delivering my Sentim^ts on this subject I would not be thought to obtrude them on that or any other we have Reports of two actions beween the ffr. & Brit. in both which it is said the ffr. got the better though the British are in the Bay. I am afraid from that Circumstance all is not well and am anxious to hear the Truth of it.

[David Poe, Baltimore, to Gov. Lee.] March 30

I receiv^d your Excellencies orders of the 28th Instant, and in compliance therewith I have sent Twelve Waggon Load of flour Containing 119 Barrels the Invoice I have inclosed to the Com^sy of Issues at your City. There is several Impressed Vessels laying here at expence Would be glad to Know whither I may Discharge them or not

March 30 [James Wood, Frederick Town to His Excellency Governor Lee] (By Mr. Ogle)

I have the Honor of Inclosing your Excellency a Copy of a late Instruction which I have received from the Board of War, and must beg leave to request that the Executive will Determine whether the British Convention Troops are to remain in Frederick Town, or be removed to any other part of the State, before this Point is settled, it will be impossible for me to Carry the Ideas of Congress into Execution, for shou'd I separate the men from the Officers at Present and put them under Close Confinement, and a removal shou'd afterwards be thought Necessary, it wou'd give them a very favourable Oppertunity of Escaping. On this Consideration I have Determined to Keep the Resolutions of Congress Profound Secret untill the return of Mr Ogle, by whom I hope to have your Determination. I wou'd beg leave to mention to your Excellency, that if the Troops are to remain here, it will be absolutely Necessary to have a line of Picquets round the Barracks—that the Guard shou'd be augmented 'till it is Compleated; and that Mr Murdock's hands shou'd be strengthened and open to his Procuring supplies of Provisions, which will become more Necessary when the Troops are Closely Confined. I have also Inclosed a Resolve of Congress for some Money to Bear the Expense of an Officer who is to go with the British to Connecticut, which I hope your Excellency will Direct to be sent by Mr Ogle, if Possible in Continental, as it will Pass better than any other money, except Specie. I am extremely Anxious to go to Winchester to send off the Prisoners of war, who I understand are Escaping Daily, but shall wait here untill Mr Ogle's return.

March 31 [Wm. Bordley, Chester Town, Kent Co. to His Excell^y Thos Sim Lee, Esqr] (p Favour Capt Tilden)

When the two Sloops of war & two Arm'd schooners were up the Bay I immediately order'd on duty such a part of the Militia as we supposed sufficient to protect the inhabitants & property of our County, I had guards station'd from the head of the County to the lower part of it & caus'd horsemen to parade below Hourly in order to give timely notice to the Militia of any movements of the Enemy. I also directed the officers to secure or destroy all the small boats & canoes & by these early exertions I presume we owe the Safety of our property, having lost nothing on this occasion. I have now sent a row boat over to Annapolis hoping that Your Excellency will furnish us with the two field peices, the Arms & Ammunition with some Cartridge paper. I apprehend that our communication will very soon be fotally cut off & without the means of defence we shall be in the most deplorable situation, we are determin'd to oppose the enemy at all events should they visit us (which I think is more than probable they having full possession of the Bay) but this opposition must be

feeble unless we get the Articles above mention'd, The field peices are much wanting with a sufficient quantity of Iron Shott & Muskett powder, having none of this latter Article, we have about fourteen barrells of cannon Powder formerly brought from Talbot County about 250 indifferent arms, 140 Cartouch boxes and some canteens, I have had the old gun barrells examined & am informed by proper judges of the makes that forty of them are very good, which I could get immediately stocked if I could be supplied with good Gun locks & mounting, nothing shall be wanting on our part & I make not the least Doubt of receiving from y^r Ex^cy every necessary assistance. It has been but a few days since our Classes have been out & we have already fifteen good recruits & we have the greatest expectations of geting our number & shall gladly receive any orders which you may think necessary to give March 31

P. S. Capt Tilden who will deliver you this letter, has been kind enough to undertake this expedition

[Le Chev D'Anmours, Consul General of France for the five Southern States, Balto., to Gov. Lee.] March 31 Brown Book No. 8 Letter 46

I had the honour of writing to your Excellency the 19th of November last on account of the taxes which this State demanded from his most Christian Majesty's Subjects settled in it, with his approbation and under the protection of his flag. I expected that the honourable house of Assembly then sitting would have paid a proper regard to what I had the honour of observing to your Excellency upon that Subject it is with real pain, Sir, that I find the determination of the Assembly has destroy'd that hope, and it affects me the more as the Consequences must be of Course disagreeable to both Nations. Give me leave Sir to resume that Subject and set it in its proper light.

The Americans setled in France Enjoy the most unlimited Liberty with respect both to their persons & properties. Not one of them is Subject to any personal or pecuniary Duty, their ships & trade find there the most unbounded protection their Sailors not only are not pressed for the royal Navy (a Step which the unity of the Interests of France & America might Justify) but even they Can not desert without being immediately apprehended at the Expence of the Prince & delivered to theirs Claymers, their Flag is respected there in as high a degree as any of those with which France has been in alliance for many ages, has she met with the same advantages here? I will say that she had a Right to Expect it, and that right was grounded upon the Broad basis of retaliation, the laws of friendship and the principles of an alliance founded upon disinterestedness in both sides yet, Sir, the State tax Commissioners & Collectors every day threaten his Majesty's Subjects if they do not pay to force them to do it by the most violent means. I am obliged by my duty to forbid them to do it; and if the Commissioners proceed on & execute their menaces;

March 31 Brown Book No. 8 Letter 46 what account shall I give to his Majesty's Ministers of those Measures shall I say in my Letters whilst the American Subjects find in France every sort of protection & Every mark of friendship, whilst the King's fleets and armies fly to the support of their Country and whilst every French officer and Soldier ardently desires to Cement the liberty of America with the Blood of her Enemies mixed with his own, the Subjects of France are dragged into Jails for not paying a tax which they owe not, or for refusing to serve in the militia of the Country to which they do not belong. Not to say any thing of what his Majesty might think & say on this occasion, what would not the whole world & the Enemies of both Nations in particular, to which it is so necessary to prove that nothing can produce any Coolness on either side? to reflect on it, Sir, Even gives me the highest pain and I beg & hope you will take the proper Steps to prevent any thing of that sort should happen

P. S. In the Letter I had the honour to write to your Excellency the 19th of November, I pointed out a method to distinguish those that ought enjoy the privilege of the French flag from those that ought not. I beg Leave to renew the same proposal

March 31 [Richard Dorsey Balt. Town To Governor Lee] (By Lt. Rucketts)

When I was at Annapolis in February last I Procured an order from your Excellency and the Council for a suit of Cloaths for Lieut Ruckets of the Artillery, Mr Muse not having the Cloathing I kept the order for sometime but Coming from Annapolis yesterday unfortunately Lost it with some other Papers, Mr Rucketts therefore waits on your Excellency for a Duplicate.

April 1 Red Book No. 27 Letter 50 [Stephen Steward, West River, To the Honorable Governor & Council]

Honorabell Gentelman

If you are now Inclinabell to Build a Gally or two I am now Redy to undertake to Build them for you to Carry guns of any size I think we Can Build with Dispatch Mr Richd Harrison the Barrer of this will Inform you how wee are Provided as to metearls I will wait on you on this occasion If you Desire it amedatly after Mr Harrison returns

April 1 [David Poe, Baltimore, to Gov. Lee.] (p favor Capt Forman]

I Received your Excellencies favour of the 30th last month by Capt Forman, and in Consequence thereof has Impressed nearly the number of good Waggons and Teams which shall be sent on Immediately to Indian Landing, I have not been able to procure near the number of Horses Wanting, but expects in the Course of this Day to Impress them—the want of Proper Boats at this place will make

it a very Difficult matter for the Troops to Cross either at the lower Ferry or Hammonds as there is not a Scow here fitting to Receive a loaded Waggon, and the Boats at Hammonds is so Crasey that I have sent all the Waggons with the Flour by Elk Ridge Landing which is the only way the Troops can come with safety as it is Impossible for Scows to Cross at the lower Ferry either in a Fresh Brees or high Swell, and the Difference in the Distance by the Landing do's not exceed five Miles. April 1

[Edw'd Gaither, Jr., Commissary of Provisions, for A. A. County, Elk Ridge, to Gov. Lee] April 1

Please to send me p the bearer hereof an Order on the Treasury for some money to buy flour Barrells, some of the Mills are full of wheat, and cannot grind any untill I can get Barrells. I cannot get them without money the Coopers will not trust the Public.

[Stephen West, Upper Marlbro to Gov. Lee.] Wednesday April 1 Red Book No. 28 Letter 6

I did myself the Honour to write to your Excellency yesterday by the Charles County Carts, & at the same time sent the Paper I had bespoke of Mr Bowie with some Ink powder & other small articles that I believe were wanted & woud be approved of I also mentioned 150 pair of good Strong English shoes that I had perswaded Mr Bowie to Consent to let go at 13/ if wanted—and there is some very good Russia Sheeting & other Linnins here which perhaps may be had. The 30 Stand of Arms which were lodged here for the Marlbro Militia were ordered down the River Patuxent This Morning—so that this whole Neighbourhood is without Arms—this will be represented to you by the Gentlemen in & about Marlbro requesting your Assistance as to Arms & Accoutrements.

½ past 12 oClock. A Letter from Col. Lyles this moment dated 2 Hours ago at Piscataway. "We have certain Intelligence that the Enemy are under full sail up the River (Potowmack) the last Accounts (which may be depended on) they were opposite to Crane Island & in all probability are by this time at the Mouth of Piscataway Creek—their force are 3 ships 1 Brig or Snow & several sloops & schooners. We request your immediate Assistance &c."

In Consequence of this Advice & similar from Col Addison—the Marlbro Militia are preparing to March to Potowmack but without Arms or any other Conveniency.

I beg leave to mention that there are several Vessells at Nottingham & some at Pigg Point. I do not know whether any of them are armed. Here are 4 short French 3 pounders—belonging to Mr Kerban of Alexandria—he carried the Carriages to Alexandria I apprehend if these Cannon & what others may probably be got, were put on board some of the best of those vessells now in the River, with Armed de-

Wednesday April 1 Red Book No. 28 Letter 6

tachments of the Militia from Ann Arundel—Calvert—Pr: Georges. Charles or St. Marys as Convenient, that at least the Barges might be prevented from Ravaging the Coasts above Benedict if not lower down.

April 2

[Rich'd Dallam, Harford County, to Gov. Lee.] (fav'd by Mr. Smith)

Not being honord with any Answer to my Letter of 21st Ultimo And expecting to hear every hour of the Enemy being in our Rivers and that I shall be obliged to order out the Militia to prevent the Inhabitants from being plundered I am obliged to send to your Excellency for directions when I shall apply for Arms Ammunition & Meat Provisions which I may stand in need of And if Its possible I shall be glad to obtain for our County a few ps Artilerey as they will render us essential service if only used as alarms to Collect the Militia as at present I have no way but the sending to every man notice to attend and before We can collect them in this way the damage apprehend^d may be done. I am much in want of a Little Salt & shall be glad to know where to apply for about 20 Bushls as its out of my power to procure it for the want of money. I have received very Little provision in Virtue of the Act to raise supplies not more than 20 Bushls Wheat & 200 lbs Pork but I have about 400 Barrels flour of my former purchase Ready to forward and shall be obliged for directions what I am to do with it. As I am afraid to send it by Water, & part of it lays within the Enemies Power if they come after it.

I have passed ten recruits under the New Law & expect more & as there is no person to receive or provide for them I am much at a loss what to do with them, I am to draught our Militia on fryday to make out the Quota of the County I find by the Law Your Excellency may put off the draught in those Counties which have heretofore exerted themselves to procure recruits & as I flatter myself Our County has heretofore furnishd more men then any other of the same ability by Our last Classing we had but 5660£ to find a recruit when other Counties had from 18 m to 22 m to raise them & under these Circumstances We raised about 40 recruits & tooke up near 20 Deserters Our Quota now is 37 men & I hope we shall get one half enlisted & if time is allow'd & money can be had the remainder may be procured

I wrote in my last for some Commissions I shall be obliged if they can now be sent me with the Last Laws.

I have obtaind no money from the Commissioners & Want for the procuring flour Cash to pay many Expences I am at. I intended making your Excellency full returns of the 15 ꝑ C^t Tax received & provisions but have them not compleatd but shall forward them in a few days

I shall be much obliged if your Excellency will please to give me as full directions as possible how to conduct myself in Opposing the Enemy & in all other affairs. April 2

[John Hanson, Philadelphia, to the Governor and Council.] April 2 Red Book No. 5 Letter 50

Mr Carroll and I wrote to your Excellency and the Honble Council by last post, requesting a supply of one thousand Dollars each of the new Emission, but at the present Exchange, I find that sum will be insufficient to answer my Immediate purposes—the exchange between Gold and Silver and the Emissions of the 18th March Issued by the State of Maryland, is as 40 to 140, so that one silver Dollar is equal to three and a half. I must therefore request that my sum may be encreased to fifteen hundred Dollars for which I will be accountable at the Exchange that may be settled by the state

The Marquis De la Fayette writes from Williamsburgh of the 26th ult. That the whole British fleet put out to Sea on the morning of the 24th and return'd again with a number of Transports (supposed to be from New York) on the 25th it is said these Transports had 2000 Troops on Board—these Joined with the Army under Arnold it is feared will do great mischief I have inclosed you a hand Bill Containing an Account of the Action of the 15th and of the Killed wounded and missing of the Continentals—by the return from the D A General we also lost of the Militia 97 Killed and wounded officers included and missing 846 privates supposed to be gone home. The Riffle regiments Commanded by Campbell and Lynch had 224 Killed and wounded, officers included.

[Richd Barnes, Leo^d Town, to His Excellency Thos Sim Lee, Esqr] April 3

I have enclosed you a Letter from Col^s Jordan, Hebb & Thomas recommending one Hundred of Militia with their Horses to be immediately raised for the defence of the Co^ty which I have ordered from the Upper Batt^n of Militia to hold themselves in readiness untill we can have an answer from you. The propriety of the measure, If we are desirous of doing any thing to the purpose, is to me very striking as it is impossible for us to collect the Militia and meet the Enemy on their present plan of conduct, unless their is a party of men on Horseback constantly watching their movements In short if something is not immediately done for the protection of the Cot^ns ruin must be the consequence to many of the Inhabitants, besides other evils which I have already informed you of. The Arms we have are distributed in such places as would answer the above plan. The Enemy have plundered many since I last wrote to you, and are now on St. Georges Island. The party that are there have, as I have been informed four Sloops, & four or five Barges. There has been several Brushes with them and the Militia, in which we have had one Man wounded. If you shuld think it proper for us to execute the

April 3 af^d plan we must be supplyed with provision, and arms. Would it not be advisable to direct Cap^n Ford to furnish what may be wanted, and for the Sheriff to be directed to supply him with money for that purpose. The Powder we have here is not good owing as I suppose to its being kept too long, it might answer for Cannon, of which we have about one hundred and fifty W^t exclusive of the Bar^le sent with the Cannon. Great quantitys of Powder has been wasted for the want of Cartrige boxes, shuld be glad to be supplyed with one hundred, besides what may be sent with any Arms that you may think proper to supply us with. You will be kind enough to pay the expences of the Persons that will deliver you this, and let me hear from you by him, If you have any news shuld be glad to be informed of it.

P. S. Our Taxes can only be paid by Tob^o being carryed to the Warehouses which in my opinion is very improper considering how we are circumstanc'd

April 3 [Jeremiah Jordan Col^o, Vernon Hebb Col^o, Jno Thomas, Lt. Col^o, to Col. Richard Barnes]

As an Armed Force is now in Saint Marys River, and information Just received that the Enemy have Landed on Saint George's Island as it said in force, We think the Safety of the County require that something should immediately be done.

We advise that application be immediately made to the Governor & Council for at Least Two hundred good Muskets with Bayonets & Cartouch Boxes Compleat be sent to this County; also Eight Cannon if they Can be spared will be of great service. We undertake to say that at least one hundred men mounted on horses will immediately turn out for the Service (provided they Can be Armed) which we think will be the best present defence we Can make.

April 4
Red Book No. 27
Letter No. 49

[W. Smith, Hugh Young, Ja^s Calhoun, David Stewart, Thos. Russell, Dan Bowly, R. Ridgely, Mark Pringle, Wm Russell, Matt: Ridley, Wm Young, L Goodwin, Nich. Ruxton Moore, Robt Gilmor, Ben Crockett, D. Carroll, David Poe, Hen. Brown, John McLure, Walter Roe, J. Griest, David Shields, Philip [Shields?], David Stodder, Rob Long, Wm Hammond, Wm Taylor, T. Yates, David McMechen, Mark Alexander, David Rees, James Ryan, Geo. Turnbull, Balt. Town, to His Excy, the Govr & Hon'ble Council.]

The inhabitants of this Town, reflecting on the insecure and defenceless situation of this Post, the Devastation and Outrages committed of late by the Enemy, in the Prosecution of the War, and the Probability that Baltimore Town may become an object; have, concluded to make application to your Excellency and Honors, that the Militia of Balt. Town, might be embodied and called out on duty, in Defence of this Place, for at this Period a very small Force might

subject the Town to surprize and Plunder, without effectual Resistance being made; and we are persuaded, that the Citizens would most chearfully perform Garrison Duty, while the Enemy continue to infest us, were Directions for that Purpose to come from your Excellency & Honors; and that no Difficulty might arise by calling out the Militia at this busy Season, we wish not it should extend further than the Town, but that Directions might be given that such Arrangements should be made in the Neighbourhood by fixing proper signals, as to assemble the County Militia on the shortest Notice. April 4 Red Book No. 27 Letter No. 49

Having full confidence that your Excellency & Honors would willingly, on every Occasion, promote the Exertions of this Town for their Defence, and that the necessary orders will be given

[Jos[a] Beall, Lieut. Ps. Gs. C[ty] to His Excell[cy] Thomas Simm Lee Esq[r]] April 4

It is not yet in my power to return you one Roll of a Select Militia Company from this County, There are very Near two made up, one in the Upper & one in the Lower Battalion, But those men live so remote from Each Other, there is no taking from one to hold to the Other without making it too inconvenient for the Men to Attend the Musters, And one great Obsticle I find is that of there not knowing how far they may have to go to their Musterfield.

There is nearly a Company Convenient to Piscatoway and another to Bladensburgh; I think if we had Arms sent to those two places to make a Begining we should soon have full companys convenient to those Towns, Which might Possibly Encourage another Company to form about Malbro or Nottingham.

It would give me great pleasure to see Usefull arms in the hands of some of our Militia, for at present, from the returns I have received, there are scarcely fire arms Enough fit for use in the whole county to furnish one Company.

There is yet a Considerable sum of money due from the people of this County for not finding Substitutes in their Last years Clases, many of them are pressing me to receive the old Continental Currency, which I have refused till I receive your directions therein, which I could wish to have by this weeks post.

Wee have not yet reced the last Commissions Either for the County or orphans court, The Latter is mutch wanted

[And. Buchanan, Balt Town, to His Excellency Thomas Sim Lee Esq[r]] April 4

This Town being very Liable to be surprised by the Enemy and the Magazines and Stores much in danger dont you think it Absolutely necessary the Militia of this Town about fifty or one hund[d] shou'd be Order'd immediately on duty. I beg you will if you agree with me send your orders to me without delay

April 4 [Jas. Calhoun, Baltimore, to the Governor and Council.]
Favoured by Capt. Keepot

My last to you was the 21st Ult° ꝑ Mr Smith since which am without any of your favors.

I was in hopes by this time to have been able to give your Hoñble Board a particular acco^t of the prospects there was of collecting Provisions on this shore but as yet the County Commissaries have not made returns. However by what I can learn there will be little or no Meat paid in, and I know not what will be done for that article, The consumption at this Post alone has been from 8 to 10000 lbs ꝑ Month for some time past and I have not one shilling to purchase that or any other article therefore most earnestly request you will if possible send me some or an order on our Collector who will probably be able to pay it

I would have done myself the Honor to have waited on you myself this week to consult about the means of procuring such articles of Provisions &c^a as may not be paid in for Taxes and the collecting to Magazines those that are but understand the Marquis De La Fayette Detachm^t are to pass through here on their way to the Northward therefore think it will be improper for me to be from home at that time

April 4 [Legh Masters, To His Excell^y y^l Governor & the Honble
The Council]

I hope your Excellence & The Honble Council will not think me impertinent in making this further application to beg you will allow me to return back to New Providence I shd not have been thus troublesome if I had not imagined that my last letter of 26th ult. had not from y^l Variety of Business slipt your memory. As I am circumstanced in being obliged to return so soon (for there is no venturing to stay longer than the fall; so precarious is it to get into this Bay after Christmas) makes me hope that your Honours will give me permission to sail which will greatly oblige

April 4 [James McHenry, Baltimore, to His Excellency Governor Lee.]
Red Book
No. 32 I believe I mentioned confidentially to your Excellency that the
Letter 52 Pennsylvania line was intended to reinforce the Southern Army. It is now collecting at Philadelphia under the Generals St Clair and Wayne. I do not learn how many have got together; but be the number what it will, they neither are nor can be of any service at Philadelphia. The situation of Annapolis and Baltimore encourages the use of expedients, however momentary that relief which they afford. If these Towns could be made the rendezvous for the troops, it would give them a present protection; render calling in the Militia unnecessary, while it offered to government an opportunity for carrying into effect its plans for the defence of the sea-board at large.

Perhaps a representation on this subject from your Excellency to Gen. Washington would induce him to adopt the measure. The encreased danger brought upon them by the Marquiss's expedition, which has drawn into their ports almost the whole shipping of the Chesapeak, must have some weight in determining him. He will also be sensible that these troops, can be as easily supported and supplied at these two posts, till in sufficient numbers to commence their march as where they now are and at the same time be so much nearer to General Green. April 4 Red Book No. 32 Letter 52

Should the Marquiss be yet with you, I think you may contrive to make him facilitate the business by a letter accompanying yours—But be good enough to keep me from his sight.

[George Dashiell, Som^t Co^ty, to The Honble Matthew Tilghman, Esqr Talbot Co.] April 5

Your favours of the 29th & 30th of March with an Inclosed order relative to the distribution of the public arms I rec^d on the 2nd Ins^t and beg lieve to inform you that the frequent depredations made on Sundry of the inhabitants of this county have obliged me to keep as many men as I could conveniently arm on duty since the 1st of March last. I have consulted the field officers of this county on the Expediency of removing the stock and provision from the several parts of this county exposed to the enemies vessels And also the removal of small boats & Canoes the former of which they apprehend will be attended with so much difficulty (and loss of stock from the scarcity of food for their support) that they have declined attempting to execute it at Present. The latter they have advised and I have appointed a day for that purpose.

I have no reason to expect any vessels of force from Portsmouth before Sunday week being the time (I am inform'd) that they have appointed to visit their friends in Annemessix we have procured Three six pounders and are preparing carriages for them ball I expect to get from Accomack Grape shott I am afraid are not to be had there nor cannon powder, I hope it will be convenient for you to furnish me from above as my brother informs me that you rec^d some cannon powder from the Western Shore I have sent a cart & request the fav^r of you to supply me with such Q^ty as you may Judge Necessary, I have consulted the field officers on the Draught we are unanimously of opinion that if it could with propriety be suspended in this County it would of public utility from the great disaffection which prevails among the inhabitants we are of opinion that should the Act for procuring recruits be executed at this time that a great many of the disaffected will go to the Enemy. Should you be so fortunate as to procure ammunition for the cannon I should wish to erect some small fortifications on the rivers in different parts of the county, this cannot be done without men and Intrenching tools should your

April 5 Honours be of opinion with me that such a measure is necessary. I could wish to be impowered to inlist a matross company to consist of thirty six men for the use of the county. We have in this & Worc. county a number of men who are dismissed from the Army which I apprehend would enter into that Service if properly incouraged, and if your Hon^{rs} approve of it I will procure such intrenching tools as may be necessary at the public Expence. Should you not approve of my Enlisting the men, the intrenching business might be performed by the Militia on duty. I have not sent any of the Militia of this county to guard the ammunition. If it is convenient for you to furnish me with it I apprehend that you will direct the Lieu^{t} of Talbot to furnish such a guard as may be necessary for that purpose.

April 5 [Zacha Forrest, St. Marys County, to Gov. Lee.]

There was a negro man condemned at our last Court to be Hanged and have understood, that the proceedings of the Court have been transmitted to you my peculiar situation having no Goal in Our county, and being obliged to keep the Criminal at my Own house induces me to hope you'l either send down a warrant for the Execution or a Reprieve, as I have no way of Securing him properly at my house, the fellow is very Likely and not more than nineteen years of age.

April 5 [Ridley & Pringle, Baltimore to His Excellency Thos Sim Lee, Esq.]

At the sale of Confiscated property yesterday we bought a Lot near this Town for One thousand and twenty pounds. One fifth of which by Law being to be paid in specie we have to beg the favor of your Honb^{le} Board to give us an order on the Treasurer to credit the Commissioners Two hundred and four pounds specie (the 1/5th) The Certificate for the sum due us in Specie we have inclosed to the Honble J. T. Chase that the above sum may be endorsed as paid on Account.

April 6 [Don'l Yeates, D. Q., Annapolis, to The Hon. The Executive Council for the State of Maryland]

Wishing to State to your Hon^{r} Board dificulties I labour under in the department of Business in which I stand, in hopes the same may be considered and some mode of relief Pointed out and Aid given me.

When I entered the business of the department the Q^{r} Master General handed me an Estimate of supplies to be made by this state, in which estimate, is a Considerable Quantity of Indian Corn and Hay, this Article of forage I have been informed the Legislator has not made any provision for, be assured every endeavour in my power has been tryed to procure a sufficient Quantity to support the business what I have been able to procure together with the assistance you

have hitherto given me is expended, a Considerable number of Teams is now on their rout within this State with Supplies for the Southern Army and many more shortly to come on, if I should not be able to pass them thro' it must occasion much disorder and retard Public measures. I have not omitted every application I could think would be of Service, to prevent this embarrasment, Could a supply be granted me at the Posts of Elk, Baltimore, and George Town, in Lieu of any other supply Granted by Legislation it would be Assential at this time to forwarding on Stores to the Southward—of the propriety of this measure I do not presume further than to shew your Hon^r Board the real Situation, as much depends on geting the Supplies forward, and rest Assured if Aid can be given Consistant with propriety I shall receive it. April 6

[Richd Dallam, Harford County, to Gov. Lee.] April 7

I was Honor'd with your Excellency's Letter of the 4th Ins^t Yesterday and am much obliged by the draught of the Militia being suspended untill 1st May. As I Hope by that time our Quota will be nearly made up, but am sorry to find no Person has been appointed to receive the recruits in this County. As the Law expressly declare that no recruits shall be marchd out of the County in which he was recruited untill he is furnish'd with every Article of cloathing therein direct'd to be given them as encouragement from the State therefore I have it not in my Power to send them away nor am I inclined as they with the same reason may be sent to Carolina without cloathing my Promise has been given that they should not be sent off without, to every Soldier Who have as yet enlist'd.

I hope your Excellency will therefore notwithstanding the former Appointment of Mr Donnelson make an appointment of some person in this County to receive recruits or send up their Cloathing so that they may be furnished immediately and sent forward.

I am distressed to think that the arms we have are all that can be furnish'd for our defence and indeed those We have will be no use unless we can be supplyed with Ammunition for Your Excellency does not mention a word whether Its to be had or not As I know not now where to apply having received no Orders. As it must be of consequence for without it I cannot be in any manner prepared to oppose the Enemy. I must ask Your Excellency to direct where I am to send or how I am to be supplyd with Ammunition.

Since the first appearance of the Enemy we have been constantly Allarmd as the appearance of every Vessel gives uneasiness to the people on the Shores

Mr Hughs Informs me he could supply us with what Cannon are necessary for this County & will trust the Public for the Payment & without some Cannon I shall think myself under the necessity of keeping continually on Gaurd parties of Our Militia for I find they

April 7 are not to be collected so soon as their presence are necessary—by sending for them

I have Inclosed a paper sent me in Your Excellencies Letter not knowing the danger of its being sent me tho I hoped some directions wld been given me for the Procuring meat Provisions on immergencies

I am sorry to give Your Excellency so much trouble but my situation obliges me.

April 7
Red Book
No. 8
Letter 36

[Sam Huntington, President, Philadelphia, to His Excellency the Governor.]

I have the honor to inclose Copies of Letters received this morning, which from their Importance it is judged necessary to communicate to you, with all possible Expedition.

April 2
Red Book
No. 8
Letter 35

[David Foreman, N. Jersey to His Excell. Samuel Huntington]

By accounts I this day received from New York two of the inhabitants near the Clove took and carried into Gen[l] Sir Henry Clinton the Eastern mail. They received from Sir Henry a gratuity of eighty guineas for the service. The mail was carried in on Saturday last.

Through the same Channel I am informed a large embarkation is now in forwardness for Delaware Bay. That Gen[l] Clinton will take the Command of it and take post at New Castle. My informant says confidence may be put in his information. In justice to his intelligence I must say I have hardly found him to err.

The known disaffection of the lower parts of Delaware and Maryland States is also an inducement to me to give credit to the above account and the advantage to be drawn from early intelligence will I presume plead my excuse in thus forwarding unasked by your Excellency the above account.

April 5
8 o'clock
P. M.
Red Book
No. 8
Letter 34

[Will: Livingston Trenton to His excellency Sam[l] Huntington President of Congress.]

I this moment received a letter from General Forman accompanied with one for your excellency which I presume is upon the same subject with mine

He informs me that he has intelligence from New York that a large embarkation is preparing gen[l] Clinton to command in person—their destination for the Delaware and that Clinton is to take post at New Castle. He adds that he has been seldom disappointed in his intelligence thro the channel by which he has received the present.

I know that general Formans intelligence has been generally found true and I thought this account of such importance as immediately to apply to col Neilson for an express which he readily furnished.

[James McHenry, Baltimore, to His Excellency Governor Lee.] April 7 Red Book No. 32 Letter 48

The apprehensions of danger and attack from the enemy's plundering vessels with the recent desertion of several negroes from the neighbourhood of this Town, have induced its citizens to purchase and prepare two look-out boats at their private expence in order to prevent the latter, but more particularly to give information of the approach of the former, that they may have time to embody for its defence. It is calculated, that the price of the boats, the wages of their crews, and some common disbursements, will amount to near 300£ specie per month. The inhabitants of this Town have requested me to lay this before your Excellency, and to beg your order to the commissary here, that provisions may be issued for the boats during this particular service; or till the plan, which they are informed government has before them for the general defence of the bay, shall be put into execution.

[Nath[l] Greene, Head Quarters, North Carolina, to Governor Lee] April 7 [copy]

Your Excellencys Letter of March the 19th I had the honor to receive the Day before yesterday.

General Gist informed me sometime since of the order for incorporating the new Regiments with the old ones, which had taken place before your Letters arrived and the Officers were on their way home.

When I had the honor of an interview with a committee of your two Houses at Annapolis, and laid before them the distresses of the southern department, and the little force there was there to oppose the Enemy, they promised me I should be reinforced as soon as possible, and might rely upon all the support they could give. But I confess I am not a little disappointed that succour is so long a coming. And I had the mortification to hear a few Days ago that on the 13th of March not a man was raised.

Our distress here has not been less than I represented; on the contrary it has been much greater; and had it not been for the very great exertions of Virginia the Southern States must have fallen. But it will be impossible for that State to give effectual aid to this Army while they have such a large Body of the Enemy in the Bowels of the State to contend with.

No one part of my requisition has as yet, been complied with. The Waggons we are in the greatest distress for want of. The Cavalry Horses equally so; and the disappointment of the money has been exceedingly distressing. Not a shilling of money have I had for the most pressing emergency since I took the command in the southern department. In this situation you may readily conceive my difficulties. Maryland certainly has it in her power to releive me. I required of her but a few things and she has given me none of either I wish you may not neglect to give support to the Army too long. If

April 7 [copy] the Enemy succeeds in their plan for reducing North Carolina you may depend upon Virginia and Maryland falling next. It is of more importance to support the Southern States in time than you may imagine. The Enemy will get great reinforcements from this quarter if they establish their government.

I am now on my march for South Carolina, but I shall not be able to hold my ground there unless I am immediately reinforced. I am told the old German Regiment is halted in Maryland to guard the Prisoners at Frederick Town. This I am surprised at while we are so weak here, and Militia would answer that service there. I must beg leave to refer your Excellency to the publications of Congress for a State of the Southern operations.

April 7 [Jos^{a} Beall, Lieu^{t} P^{s} G^{s} C^{ty} to His Excell^{y} Thos Simm Lee Esqr]

I have just now reced an Acc^{t} that 6 of the Enemies Ships are on their way up Potomack That they have destroyed Coll^{l} Barnses houses & Robed him of all he had, that they have burnt priest Hunters House at the mouth of Portobacco Creek and are Expected at Alexandria, the Vessells from that place are all moveing up into the branch, I shall order the Militia or such part as are in the Neighbourhood of the river to meet immediately & hold themselves in readiness. But what we are to do for arms I know not, If I knew where they were to be had I would press some carriages to bring them, But shall wait your farther Orders with respect to them which I hope to receive by this Express

April 7 [Richd Barnes, Leo^{d} Town, to His Excellency Thos Sim Lee, Esqr]

Mr J. A. Thomas comes to you at my particular request, to git such necessarys as can be possibly spared. I am in hopes that more than the Seventy stand of Arms you mention may be spared, as Arms are not wanted in the interior parts of the Country, and the whole of this Co^{ty} exposed, I am satisfied that the Men would turn out freely if we could Arm them, in most parts of the Co^{ty} There are many other things necessary, which Mr Thomas will inform you of, and to whom I request the Arms &c. may be delivered, as he will be there on the spot to forward them. To him also I refer you for all the Intelligence that we have. I have no money and therefore request that the Expences may be paid by you.

Mr Thomas will hand you the necessary accounts.

April 7 [John Murdock, Montgomery to His Exc^{y} the Governor and the Honble the Council]

May it please your Honours I have the Honour to enclose you a Commission and Instructions for a Captain Etherington, late belonging to a Privateer from New York, who, with three others,

were brought to George Town yesterday by Capt Fraser of the Schooner Peggy from Baltimore now lying at Alexandria. April 7

These Gents with sixteen more, composed a Party on board a small Tender (alias a Pilot Boat) who were hardy enough to come up to Alexandria and board a Vessel there in the Night, with an Intent to carry her off; but luckily they were discovered by Capt Fraser, who fired upon them, and they immediately deserted their Prize and proceeded down the River in their own Vessel. Capt. Fraser pursued them, and caus'd them to run ashore near Boyd's Hole in Virginia, where they fled from their own Vessel (which he has brought to Geo. Town) and soon after were captured by the Militia and delivered to him.

I have the following Description of these four Prisoners from Mr Thompson, who examined them last Night Viz:

First. Robert Etherington. A Person bearing a Commission as a British Subject, Instructions &c—(now enclosed)

2^{d} Richard Judd. Who says he was second in Command to Robert Etherington on this Expedition, and sailing Master of the Surprize, one of the Privateers described in the Commission.

3^{d} Duncan McBeane. A Caledonian. Only a common Sailor. Etherington and Judd are Englishmen—

4th William Dixon, late an Inhabitant of George Town, and Subject of this State, who took the Oath of Fidelity before Mr Thompson on the 22^{d} of June 1778—having been absent at the Time limited by Law for taking that Oath—

Master Dixon was this Day committed by Mr Thompson to our County Goal on strong Suspicions of Treason—i e by his having adhered to Persons bearing Arms and employed in "the Service of Great Britain";—As to the other three, who are now under a Guard of Militia in George Town, I request your orders in what manner to dispose of them—

I also enclose you a Letter from Col^{l} Peter Wagener Lieu^{t} of Fairfax County, which Col: Deakins received about 12 o'Clock last Night by Express, and wish to know from you whether I may order the Militia of this County to march to that Part of Virginia, in Case of an Invasion, and should they be ordered as far as George Town, on their Way, whether Provisions may be issued by the Commissary at that Place—

I wrote you on the 27th Ult. respecting Instructions how to dispose of the Recruits now raising; and I again request your Directions as to that matter, not having yet received any Answer thereto.

Mr John Haymond Nicholls, son of the High Sheriff of this County, who never to my Knowledge, held any Commission in the Militia, has had the Influence to raise a number of Volunteers to act as select Militia, who have chosen him their Captain; these and others

April 7 who have enrolled in other Parts of the County will nearly if not altogether, make up a full Company.

I know Mr Nicholls to be an active, spirited young Man, therefore I could wish that he might obtain a Commission and the whole be put under his Command, if it can with Propriety be done—

If it be possible to furnish us with any Arms and Accoutrements, I request you to forward a number of them to George Town, as soon as convenient: and the sooner the better.

We are likewise in Want of Gunpowder, even for the Militia; but should the Enemy reach Alexandria, and the armed Vessels there be sent up to George Town, (which I hear is intended) we should not doubt of their paying us a Visit. Many situations near that Place (Geo. Town) command the Harbour in such a Manner, that by forming a Battery or two with the Guns from those Vessels, (for there is not a single Cannon at George Town) we might probably make a tolerable Defence—which shews the necessity of being provided with Ammunition.

April 6 Fryday [Pet. Wagener Alexandria to Colo William Deakins, George Town]

We have information here, that the Enemies vessels are proceeding up the river, that they have got as high up as Port tobacco plundered and burnt Priest Hunter's House—Wat Hanson's & Pyes—It is generally believed they intend up to this place and that General Washington's Houses—Belvoir & Colo Masons will be destroyed, we are putting ourselves here in the best posture of defence, that the nature of our situation will admit and my Dear Colo I hope that in case of an Attact upon this Town that you will give us your assistance from George Town our signal here (if the Enemy shou'd approach) will be the firing of three distinct Cannon—we are badly armed, but the Inhabitant of this Town and the Vessenage are determined not to give up the Town, without such a force comes up, that we cannot oppose, I make no doubt if Colo Murdock has notice of this that he will order his Militia to hold themselves in readiness, and give us his Assistance.

April 7 [Ann Tilley, Annapolis, To His Excellency the Governor & to all the Worthy and well disposed Inhabitants of this City.]

This Petition and Address of Ann Tilley relict of Capt Tilley, with due Submission Humbly sheweth—that Whereas the said Ann Tilley whilst she was dedicating her time, Money, and Attention for the recovery of her Negroes—(wch had eloped to the British Ships) had the great and Additional Mortification to find on her return to her dwelling, her House Plunder'd by a Party of Continental Soldiers. and reduced by this unhappy event to a Wretched and dependant state.

Her and her sons Wearing Apparel, Provisions reserved for the support of her Family, with her Bear Cloaths intire &c was taken from her. It is hoped a bare representation of this unfortunate event will avail with the truly Good & Great, and induce them to relieve the unhappy sufferer, by Contributing somewhat out of their abundance to alleviate her distresses To the Petitioner it is an Additional Agravation of Misfortune to be compelled to Implore Assistance. Nothing but dire Necessity could have Infered and incited this method of Publickly calling on the Benevolent and Humane on this Occasion, not doubting but among such she shall find somewhat to recompence her losses and Gladen her aged Heart, every Benefaction will be received with thankfulness and gratitude. April 7

[Baruch Williams, to His Excell^{y} Thomas Sim Lee, Esq] April 7

Cecil County Court meets on Tuesday next which occasions my Immediate return home I am sorry that I could not wait, but am in hopes Col^{o} Hollingsworth will answer the same end. My Account is settled with the Auditor, nearly all the Ballance is still due to Persons in the County who are in want of the money. I have left it with Col^{o} Hollingsworth by whom I wish the money may be sent. If I do not get it I am Certain that I shall not be able to Purchase any article on Credit again for the State.

If I am to Purchase Corn and Hay for the Post at Elk I shall want Money for that purpose.

[James Wood, Frederick Town to Gov. Lee.] April 7 Red Book No. 28 Letter 15

I have been Honoured with your Letter of the 3^{d} Instant and immediately forwarded your Dispatches to Colonel Rawlings & Mr Sprigg since which Col^{o} Rawlings has been so obliging as appears to be very Different from what your Honble Board seemed to Expect, and which the Colonel has Promised to represent the first opportunity. I find it altogether out of my Power to Procure a Sufficient sum of money to Bear the Expences of an Officer, Directed to be sent with the British officers to Connecticut, and have been obliged to make a merit of necessity, in allowing them to remain till the 25th in Order to adjust their Affaires, by which time, it is Probable your Treasury will be able to Comply with the requisition of Congress. An application has been made to me by a Surgeon Carroll to Permit him to go on a visit for a few Days to Mr Carroll's on Elk Ridge, which I have declined unless you shou'd think proper to signify your Approbation of it. Col^{o} Price, I am informed has Collected five or six Beeves, and as we are Greatly Distressed for meat, I hope your Excellency will Direct him to deliver them to the Issuing Commissary:

April 8 [George Murdock, Frederick Town to His Excellency Governor Lee]
(hon^{d} by Col. Rawlings)

Apprehending the Treasury is still empty your Excellency will be pleased to send me a further order on Mr Edelen with which I must do the best I can. This morning I rec^{d} a waggon load of Salt Pork from Mr Tho. Beall of Geo Town, with a request to send Three waggons down immediately for more, this together with about Five Thousand weight of Beef I purchased and received yesterday will be a pretty good supply.

April 8 [Jos^{a} Beall, Lieu^{t} P^{s} G^{s} C^{ty}, to His Excell^{y} Thomas Simm Lee]

I received yours by the Express about Eleven oClock and have ordered two Waggons up to the Magzein for 150 stand of Armes in case we shuld not get Enough from Mr West, as I am apprehensive they may attempt our Lower Warehouses & the inhabitants on the river below I shall go immediate down & send from Broad Creek to the Wood yard for the arms their to get the people armed in that Neighborhood, Mr John Turnbull Quarter Master of the Upper Battalion waits on you with this to receive your order on the person who has the care of the Arms & will meet the cariages at the Magezean, I dont think we shall want Amunition though I am afraid it is but very sorrey. I shall take Every step in my power to disapoint the Enemie in their intentions.

P. S. I am informed the Enemie burnt Portobacco Warehouse Last friday

April 8 [Jas. Calhoun, Baltimore, to the Governor and Council]
(fav^{d} by Mr. Govane.)

I had the Honour to receive yours of the 6th requesting me to direct the Com^{ys} of Cecil Baltimore & Montgomery to purchase Forage for the Posts of Elk, this & George Town. In consequence of which I have wrote to the Comm^{y} of Montgomery to procure the quantity you order for George Town & shall purchase what is required here as soon as possible, but as to that for Elk presume your Honble Board made a mistake in making the requisition to me instead of Col^{l} Hollingsworth it being in his District and not mine and suppose the com^{y} of Cecil would not think himself justifiable in executing an order from a person who had no jurisdiction over him therefore shall decline giving any order to Cecil without your farther directions

April 8
Red Book
No. 26
Letter 3

[Dan'l Jenifer, Portobacco, to Gov. Lee.]

By Col Wares desire (he being stationed at a place without the convenience of writing) I have to inform your excellency, that on thursday evening two arm'd Schooners with a Cutter and some Barges came above Cedar point. Landed some of their Men at

Mrs Youngs Ferry, and plundered her of her most valuable Effects; at 2 o'Clock friday morning this town was alarm'd with an Acct of two barges being at the Ware house, possibly they being apprized of an Alarm being given was the means of preventing any damage being done either to the Warehouse or town from thence they proceeded to Walter Hanson Esqr. pillaged himself and family of every kind of wearing apparel and other valuable Effects & carried off his son Saml a Lieutenant of the State Regiment and exceedingly insulted the whole Family. They then moved to the Revd Mr Matthew's and committed the same Devastages, and then removed farther down and shewed an intention of Landing at G. B Causin Esqr which was prevented by the appearance of some Militia who had march'd from this place; from thence they proceeded to the Elegant Seat of Geo. Dent Esqr and after having plundered him retired; But being strongly Reenforced with three additional Barges; they again Landed and reduced to Ashes all the houses in the place save the Corn house which happened to stand at a considerable distance. The Evening of the same day some Barges were sent into Nanjemy Creek where they took out a Vessel Loaded with Indian corn and returned to their Vessels without doing farther damage. Yesterday (as is supposed) upon observing some people busied in removing tobacco from Cedar point Warehouse, they immediately fell down and secured it; by lying three Vessels in such a manner as to Subject any person opposing 'em to a Cross fire from the Vessels: However some few of the Militia march'd down and attacked their Centries by which one of their Men was killed. The situation of these few Men being too dangerous they retired. Many were busied all night in getting the tobacco on Board their Vessels, which they perfectly Effected, having only 2 Hhds in the Ware house and a bulk of unprized tobacco belonging to the State. The armed Schooners still lay at Cedar point. Two Ships and two other Vessels are standing up the River; Their object manifestly is plunder, and We are by no means prepared to prevent their Designs taking Effect; having an extant of coast but few arms and less amunition. I have it therefore in order from the Col to request Your Excy to forward some musquets powder and Ball Cartridge paper and if possible two or three small field ps well mounted upon light Carriages. The Militia seem Ready and willing to Act with vigour if supplied with the means.

April 8
Red Book No. 26
Letter 3

[Matt: Ridley Baltimore To his Excellency Thos Sim Lee, Esqr] April 8

The Troop of this Town are informed the State have some Trumpets—their endeavours to procure one have hitherto been ineffectual. They will esteem it a favor to have the Loan of one of those you have & will either agree to replace or pay for it if desired: and beg as a farther favor it may be sent up the very first opportunity.

April 9
Red Book
No. 8
Letter 38

[Sam. Huntington, President, Philadelphia, to Honble Matthew Tilghman.]

You will receive enclosed An Act of Congress of the 8th Instant recommending to the Executives of the States of Delaware, Maryland & Virginia respectively to take immediate measures for the removal of all public stores and also all provisions & forage public & private which will not be necessary for the consumption of the inhabitants on the Peninsula between the Chesapeak and Delaware Bays to prevent such articles falling into the enemy's hands: I should suppose it equally expedient to include valuable horses tho' they are not mentioned in the Act.

This recommendation is in consequence of intelligence received from New York the substance of which is prefixed to the enclosed Act altho it is presumed you will have received the intelligence before this comes to hand. As future events must determine with certainty the designs of the enemy so future intelligence may influence the measures now recommended yet it is to be hoped such precautions may be taken as will prevent any valuable supplies of any kind falling into the Enemy's hands should they attempt to execute their designs as reported.

April 9

[James Lloyd, Chester Town, to the Governor and Council]

I have the honor to inform you that the Marquiss Fayette who left my Fathers yesterday morning has a Letter from Colo Morris Aid de Camp to Genl Greene which contains some very agreeable Intelligence. Colo Morris writes that on the 23 ulto Ld Cornwallis was retreating precipitately. That on one day he left our Wounded on the road and the next a Captain and upwards of seventy of his own wounded. That Gen: Greenes Army was under marching orders after him. The distance between them fourteen miles. That by reinforcements received after the action Gen: Greene's army was superior to the Enemy. I congratulate your honors on this Intelligence. I think it my duty to inform you that Mr N. Hynson of Eastern Neck Island has in his possession an eight oar barge and two guns belonging to her the property of this State Mr Spencer who keeps the Ferry at Rock Hall, says she is a very fine vessel. Capt. Benjamin Wickes has a 6 oar barge which he found by the side of his Vessel after she blew up. Mr Spencer says she is not in very good order but may be easily repaired. Doctr Smith informs us that Genl Wayne with twelve hundred Pennsylvania Troops was to march to the southward by way of Lancaster. I must repeat my request to be favored as early as possible with an Answer to my last Letter to your Honors.

[Chev[l] De la Luzerne, Philadelphie, to Monsieur Thomas Lee, G[r] du Maryland]

April 9
Brown Book
No. 7
Letter 22

Monsieur. J'ai reçu la lettre que Votre Excellence m'a fait l'honneur de m'écrire le 28. du mois dernier relativem[t] à la commission dont l'Assemblée de Maryland a chargé Mr Ridley. Je suis bien convaincu de l'importance des objets qui lui sont confiés et l'achat des armes, habits et munitions me paroit devoir ẽtre executé avec les plus grande celerité. Cependant Monsieur, je ne puis que Vous promettre de recommander Mr Ridley aux Ministres du Roy et Vous assurer du desir, que j'ay, qu'il puisse réussir dans sa mission : j'écris en ce moment en France à ce sujet ; mais je ne puis en aucune maniere autoriser les esperances que l'Assemblée du Maryland peut avoir conçues touchant un emprunt à faire dans le Royaume. Le Succès dependre probablement des Suretés que les preteurs croiront trouver dans les propositions qui leur seront faites. Je pense de mẽme à l'egard des armes, habits et munitions que Mr Ridley est chargé de Se procurer.

Il n'y aura aucune difficulté, Monsieur, au passage de Mr Ridley dans une Frégatte du Roy; cependant aucune n'est prete à partir en ce moment. Nos commandans se feront certainement un plaisir de lui donner une place s'il se trouve à Boston ou Newport lors du Depart. Mais ces expeditions Se faisant avec Secret et promptitude lorsqu'elles ont lieu, je crains qu'en egard à la distance il ne puisse ẽtre averti à tems et s'il se presente d'autres occasions favorables il fera bien d'en profiter. Je Vous prie d'ẽtre bien persuadé Monsieur du Zẽle avec lequel je vais m'occuper de cette Affaire, ainsi que de toutes celles qui peuvent interesser le Maryland. Je suis avec un respectueux attachement, Monsieur, De Votre Excellence Le très humble et très obéissant Serviteur,

[Commodore Jas. Nicholson, Rock Hall, to His Ex Thos S. Lee, Esqr.]

April 9
Red Book
No. 28
Letter 63

I Beg leave to acquaint your Excellency that I set off this morning from Bal. in order to go to the Head of Elk in the State boat, when we got well up with Pools Island we discovered a Schooner under Sail and another at an Anchor, we stood so near them as to see plainly they were not any part of our Fleet and Armed, therefore have no doubt of there being Enemies. I concluded it best to stand into Rockhall and am now proceeding with all Expedition to the Head of Elk. The Boat has my orders to return this Evening either to Baltimore or Magoty and there to continue untill she can proceed with safety to Annapolis or untill she has your orders relative to her.

April 10 [John Smith Brookes to The Honble The Governor & Council.] (p. Mr. Basil Ray)

I had ordered my matters so as to sett off with my Cattle as yesterday for Frederick Town, agreeable to your former orders, but meeting with Mr West he desired I would alter my rout and have them drove immediately to Annapolis, that it was the determination of the Council; in Consequence thereof I now send them forward under the care of Mr Ray 27 in Number the greater part of which are very fine and upon the whole a parcel of very good cattle;

My demands for money is very pressing. I am under the disagreeable necessity of borrowing small sums to defray necessary Expences. If you cannot supply me with money—pray give me an order on the Collector for £500 state, it is to pay for provisions purchased before the present Law. for which I have obliged myself to pay Cash.

I have two other stears which fell lame in driving

April 10 [J. Donnellan, Baltimore, to Gov. Lee.] (p favor Mr. Calhoun)

With much Reluctance I again trouble your Excellency, requesting a Supply of Cash am compell'd to be urgent by the daily demands of the several persons to whom I am Indebted for acco^t of the State and am apprehensive that they think I triffle with them.

My own wants are realy so great that I have been obliged for several weeks passt to borrow Marketing, Money, as all resources to earn some have fail'd me of late

Family necessarys are geting so Dear that presently my Money will go but a short way in comparison to what it wou'd have done some weeks ago. I therefore Intreat that some measure may be fallen upon to relieve me. About Sixty Thousand Pounds wou'd be sufficient

Mr Calhoun will be so kind as to Act any part for me that may be necessary in the matter.

April 10
Red Book
No. 5
Letter 55

[John Hanson, Daniel Carroll, Philadelphia, to Gov. Lee.]

There are in this city about 4000 Rampart pieces belonging to the public—they weigh from 16 to 20^lbs each it is thought the lightest might be useful in the hands of the Militia, and the others on board of Vessels. If you think it proper we shou'd apply for any of them, on account of the state, it is probable a thousand or 1500 might be obtained, with some old cartouch boxes, belonging to them. There are likewise some Brass Field pieces mounted, three or four of which might possible be obtained on y^r request

Capt Forrest left directions with Mr Gaddiss & Mr Wilkinson about the paper, & a memorandum about types for the small money

with me—but the directions were not particular enough as to the latter, & all the paper was not to be engag'd until further orders. Please to let me know what is to be done, & no time shall be lost

April 10
Red Book
No. 5
Letter 55

[S. West, Woodyard, to Gov. Lee.]

April 10
Tuesday
Morning
Red Book
No. 28
Letter 8

I imagine you may have been informed that the intelligence from Col[l] Beall was exaggerated—an express which I sent to Col. Lyles yesterday brought me an Account that the Enemy were at Lower Cedar Point 2 Schooners & a Pilot Boat, they had not burned Col Barnes's or the Priest, Matthew's Houses—they had taken some plunder from the latter & from M[r] Walter Hanson; they also took a Son of his, an officer in the extra Regiment, Prisoner. Col[l] Lyles informs me that there is a very good Spirit among the People round him to defend their Coasts but that they want Arms Accoutrements &c. I have delivered to your order, transmitted by Col[l] Beall, 118 Stand of Arms—there are a few more ready & we are preparing the rest; the People about Marlbro intended to have taken them without an order, they were so much alarmed, all the Arms are at present there, I informed the People they might have more Arms & also Cartridge Boxes from Annapolis, they are in great want of the latter. I sent with the Arms 800 very good flints. I am well informed that on Saturday, when it was so foggy 1 or 2 barges came all the way up Patuxent to Lower Marlbro manned mostly by Negroes in the night landed & Plundered the Town, burned Cap[t] John Davids House & a Traveler who was asleep in it. They took Prisoners Col[l] Fitzhugh & Will[m] Allein & carried them some distance but afterwards released them on Some Conditions: They took all the Vessells at Lower Marlbro and I hear one with Provisions from Patrick Smith—(probably intended for Marlbro) they loaded the vessells with Tobacco out of the Warehouse and carried all off down the River on Sunday Morning with a strong wind at Noth West; most of Fitzhughs Negroes went with them.

Every Hours Experience shews the necessity of having some Armed Vessells in the great Rivers especially Patuxent & Potowmach and some Cannon & Men stationed at such points where the vessells may occasionally retire to & assist in repelling the Enemy. I am surprised the Gentlemen at Alexandria who have Vessells & Cannon do not adopt the Idea—the Militia from on this Side Potowmack I believe would chearfully assist in manning the vessells.

I saw M[r] John Smith Brookes yesterday who informed me he had 30 good Beeves ready for moving. As Annapolis is without Provisions & meant to be garrisoned I told him that I believed they woud be very acceptable to you at this time—the 3 Recruits are also ordered; the Salt Provisions wait your order; but surely some will be wanted for the Militia & other purposes in this County during the Summer.

April 10 Tuesday Morning Red Book No. 28 Letter 8

Marlbro 11 a Clock

Meeting with John Bardin going to Annapolis in a Cart for Arms for Charles. I take the opportunity to send from

Bowie's Store 4½ R^ms^ English Post, 8 d° french, 4 R^ms^ folio Post grand, 3 box's wafers, 1½ doz. Ink powder, 6^lbs^ [Osnab^g^] thread, in a Trunk upon good terms.

I have agreed for 150 pair of good strong English shoes at 13/ a p^r^ in Tobacco at 15/ [illegible] & 4 ꝑ C^t^ if you approve it; the Man waiting I have only to add my Respects.

April 10 Red Book No. 32 Letter 31

[Joseph Wilkinson, Lower Marlbro, to Gov. Lee.] (Favor'd by Capt. Maynard)

I am informed by Col° Smith that he has given you an Account of the Enemys plundering this place on Sunday morning last, after that they proceeded with the Vessels they had taken & their plunder directly down the river, at the mouth of which they met the two Ships and Brigg that have been up the Bay and Continued down in Company as far as they Could be seen. Notwithstanding this I am informed that a barge came yesterday evening to Cedar point, and last night a House was seen on fire near that place supposed to be Mr Nicholas Sewalls It is more than probable they will return again the first fair wind, and as such depredations have been committed and are likely to continue, I think it absolutely necessary to fix & keep light Guards at different places on the river in order to alarm the Inhabitants of their approach and prepare the militia to act wherever they may attempt to Land—a few men fixed at different Stands & to be allowed to keep good Horses would give such intelligence as to prevent their plundering the publick warehouses and in a great measure the Inhabitants on the Water. Should your Excellency approve of this plan you will I hope impower me to put it in execution immediately & to continue it untill I receive your orders to the contrary.

You will please also to direct Col° Smith to furnish such Guards with provisions & the militia also, should it be necessary to call them out

Col° Fitzhugh and other Gentlemen of this County had it in Contemplation before the late affair happen'd to apply for four peices of Artillery to be fixed at a convenient place on the narrows of this River, and mann'd with forty or fifty militia from this and Prince Georges County together with eight or Ten select artilery men—the Militia to be relieved alternately—for this purpose they had prepared a letter, which was destroyed whilst the Enemy were here for fear of a discovery I am induced now at their request to make the application and as time will not allow me to enter into particulars, must refer you to Capt Maynard who is kind enough to be the bearer of this, and

will inform you of the most proper place for such a post as well as the utility of the measure. April 10 Red Book No. 32 Letter 31

I shall hope for your answer by his return

[And. Buchanan, Balt. Cou^{ty} To Jeremiah T. Chase Esqr] April 11

Inclos'd you have the best accounts I have been able to Collect from the Mili^{a} field Officers as the recruiting officers are daily recruiting men its Probable their may be many Pass'd since I have received those acc^{ts} in the name of God shall we have a draft of the Mili^{a}.

N B Thos Sollars, 24 men; Thos Rutter, 42 men; Benj^{a} Nicholson, 2 men; Myself, 4 men.

[Jos^{a} Beall, Lieu^{t} P^{s} Geo. Co^{ty} to His Excell^{y} Thos Simm Lee Esqr] April 11 10 o Clock
(p^{r} Thos Telley)

Inclosed you have a letter I have Just reced from Coll. Fitzgerrald of Alex^{a} & another from Col^{l} Addison, though both intiligence from the same Quarter The request made from the People of Alex^{r} I do not think I am at Liberty consistant with my Duty to Comply with, unless I am orderd so to do by y^{r} Excell^{y} & Hon^{rs} as I should thereby leave our own inhabitants Exposed to the ravages of the Enemie

I shall immediately collect as many more as can Possibly be armed & march down the river side in order to protect as far as Possible the inhabitants & their Effects Beg the wagon is arrived on the way to Annapolis for the accoutrements, for the arms I have reced may be dispatched as quick as possible.

[John Fitzgerald Alex^{a} to Col^{o} Joshua Beall Co^{ty} L^{t} of Prince Georges C^{ty}] Wednesday Morning 7 o Clock

I take the Liberty of informing you by direction of the Gentlemen of this Town that the Enemy are moving up this River in considerable force Consisting of Eight Vessells of Various sizes. We have little doubt but they are intended against this Town & are resolved to give them all the opposition in our Power Any Assistance you can give us will be thankfully received but it must be without loss of time as our latest Acco^{ts} say the Vessells are on this side Dumfries. The Ferry boats will be in rediness for your men to pass over—pray let them be well Armed

[Jno Addison to Coll Jo^{sa} Beall Lt P. G. County.] Wednesday Morning

By express to Alexandria this morning ab^{t} 3 oclock, we learn that a twenty gun Ship 2 briggs & 4 Schuners were last night at Quantico in their way to Alexandria. Pray forward the Arms as fast as possible we have some from Mr West but not half enough

April 11 [Geo: Lindenberger, Baltimore to His Excellency Thomas Sim Lee]

This afternoon Col[l] Smith of Baltimore town deliverd me a Letter from Richard Dallam (which I here send inclosed) and a Certain Cromwel therein mentioned, on Suspition that he had bought flower to send it to the Enemy by John Paul. In Consequence of this information I have Comitted s[d] Cromwel to the Guard house, as I do not think the Goal sufficient, waiting your Excellencys further Orders,

April 11 To his Excellency Tho[s] Sim Lee Esq[r] and his Honourable Council.

The Humble petition of Vachel Robosson Humbly Sheweth That your petitioner on the fourth of this Instant came to Town in a Wood flat of Joseph Maccubbin and same day a Barge with armed Men took said flat from Your Petitioner by force of Arms and your Petitioner Asked them who wou'd pay for her, in case she sho'd be damaged or Lost, & they informed him your Excellency wou'd make good any change that the flat should Sustain—now your petitioner is informed that said flat was drove down the Bay on Sunday in that Violent Wind and your petitioner is afraid she is gone to peices—now your petitioner wou'd be glad you wou'd indulge him with one of the State Boats in order to go & Look after her & soe to indeavour to get her Back if Possible as it wou'd be a Secret Satisfaction to your Petitioner & a means of safeing a Small Expence to the State and your petitioner as in Duty Bound will Ever Pray &c &c. April 11th 1781.

Vachel Robinson

April 11
Red Book
No. 28
Letter 68

[J. Rogers, Thos. Contee, Joseph Sim, Upper Marlbro, to the Council.]

The depredations committed by the enemy on Patuxent between this place and Swansons Creek has rendered it necessary to supply the Companys below with all the Arms that were lodged at this place for the Marlbro Company, this has been done we are informed by the order of Col[o] Beall, who it is said has all the rest of the Arms & all the Cartridge Boxes on Potomack, where in all probability they will be wanted. At present there are no arms in the hands of the Militia Companys on Patuxent from Bell air to Swansons Creek except the above 30 nor any cartridge Boxes. Col[o] Beall the Lieu[t] is at a distance. Under these Circumstances we take the liberty to request the assistance of your Excellency and Honors in supplying the Militia here with a reasonable proportion of Arms & Cartridges.

One hundred of Arms and one hundred & fifty of Cartridge Boxes of which we shall give an immediate account to the Lieu[t] There appears a very good spirit among the Militia to exert themselves if they had arms and a Number are well disposed and desireous to put themselves on Horse back, could they be furnished with 20 or 30 Horse mens swords, which might be sent with the rest of the

Arms, if to be spared, we have hired a Carriage to bring what the Governor and Council may be pleased to send. April 11 Red Book No. 28 Letter 68

We are just informed that Benedict was burnt last night by the enemy, and that they were proceeding up the River, but of this there is no authentic acco^{t}.

[W. Bordley, Chester Town, Kent Co'ty, to The hon^{ble} Mathew Tilghman, Esq. President of the Eastern Shore Council] April 12

Agreeable to request I have ordered the arms to be distributed among the militia who could be most depended on & whose situation was most exposed to the depredations of the Enemy.

Since which I sent a row boat over to Annapolis for such Arms &c as were to be lodged at this Town & have received the articles as to list. The two Field peices & the Iron Shott Capt Tilden could not bring. The arms are mostly old & partly worn out—these kind of arms if they contract the least particle of rust will not fire. I am persuaded the Council will give us our proportion of the new arms allotted for the defence of the eastern Shore & they may depend on having all their orders strictly observed & punctually executed, Major Dean has come to this Town in order to take charge of the recruits, he wants about 120 Musketts to put into the hands of our recruits & those he expects from other Counties; this scheme I think advisable, as the recruits may be easily train'd the most of which having been already on duty & should Baltimore Town be attacked, as we have reason to expect, our county will be greatly exposed. I can furnish him with 78 Musketts which I receiv'd from Baltimore, the other fifteen being sent the other night on an alarm to Quaker Neck. Mr Sturges is making canteens & promises to be expeditious about them, Slings will be wanting for those he makes, as well as a considerable number in our armoury, I will endeavour to have Cartridges made & shall want Lead, ours being nearly exhausted having lately run a good many bullets & have been making for our use. I have just spoke to Mr Harragan about the baggage Waggon he tells me that he has laid aside other work & will make the waggon with all possible dispatch. I saw Col^{o} Graves yesterday who informs me that he has been over to Baltimore that they are preparing Barges generally on the western shore that he has made every necessary enquiry & will finish our Barge completely with all possible expedition. I have this day receiv'd 18 Muskett Locks from Annapolis, we have forty Barrells at least & could we be supplied with mounting they might be stocked here very soon we have this morning received a Letter from Capt James Nicholson dated 11th instant head of Elk. who informs that the detachment under the Marquis are under marching orders for Baltimore Town. Genl Foreman from the Jerseys writes congress that he has intelligence from N York which he can depend on; That a large embarkation was going from thence

April 12 said to be destined for the Delaware Bay & to take Post at New Castle or Wilmington this came in a Letter from Ez. Foreman Esqr to Col^{o} Benjamin Chambers of this Town yesterday

April 12 [Rob. Geoghegan, Nicholas Ridgely To Mr James Brice, Lieu. of Anne Arundel County]

Inclosd You have two Commissions which we have thought highly necessary to send in as we Canot hold them any longer Consistent with the Principles the Lord has Blest us with therefore beg you will take them in we look upon it that it will be an Imposition on our Countrymen if we should hold Commissions & knew at the same time our Concience would not allow us to Act in the Office, so Sir as You see we make a Matter of Concience of holding an Office in which we are sure we cant Act in as men holding such Offices should do, therefore beg you will Excuse us—Not but we wish Sucksess to our Country & hope to se it in a Prospereus and Peacable State—O may the Lord Bless our distressed land with Peace & Grant that the Inhabitants thereof may live in Brotherly Love and Union is the Prayer of Sir, y^{r} h. S^{ts}.

April 12
Red Book
No. 32
Letter 50

[James McHenry, Baltimore, to the Council]

I beg leave to claim an indulgence which I am informed you have granted to some gentlemen of this State serving in the Army, but not provided for by any particular resolve of Congress. In this, I ask only for past services, but not for any of a very recent date, or future.

Understanding that you have liquidated the depreciation of the pay of your officers, and that the certificates given them upon this occasion are equivalent to specie in the payment of confiscated estates; and having some intuition to risque in this line, I shall take the liberty to furnish you with my account, stating the periods of my service in the American Army, the pay still due me, with the distinction of offices I have held, as soon as I shall obtain the proper vouchers from Head Quarters. What I have to request of the honorable council in the mean time, is, an assurance from them of settlement, and that I shall not, in case of purchasing any confiscated property, be pushed for the specie proportion of the money before I can procure an adjustment of my account.

I shall write by the first opportunity to the Army or as soon as I receive your answer.

April 12 [Robert Pain Davis to His Excellency Thomas Sim Lee Esqr]

I Receiv'd from you a Commition appointing me first Lieutenant of Captain Samuel Watkins Company of Militia in the West River Battalion as it Dont suit me to serve in that office, I Beg to Resign.

[Sam. Smith, Balt., to Gov. Lee.]

April 12
Red Book
No. 27
Letter 66

In Consequence of Gen. Buchanan's Orders I have drawn out all that part of my Battalion of Militia which live in Town Mr Calhoun will have Inform'd your Excelly that there is not at this Post more than Ten days Meat. Mr Keeport Informs me there is very little Lead in this Magazine; but that 1000lbs may be bought in this place. He also tells that he has no Money to provide wood for the Guards, to pay for Repairs of Carriages on the fort which will not bear firing without he says he does not Act in the Quarter Master Department & Mr Poe refuses the Duty of State Quarter Master, such person is necessary, particularly as Gen. Buchanan has thought it prudent to order out Capt Moores Horse, who will when on Duty want Forage There are Two Comps of Militia in Patapsco Neck who would more Conveniently Guard the North Side of Patapsco than my Battalion one of my Companies at the Fort, another on Fells point & the necessary Town Guards, will be sufficient Duty for my Militia. There are a great Number of Dissaffected & others who refuse to bear Arms, Indeed to whom it would be dangerous to trust arms, & whose situation Capable & willing to do every Injury gives great Discontent to those worthy's who turn out on all & every occasion, they demand that such persons (where there is real Danger) be order'd at least 30 Miles from the Town, this is the general opinion & I imagine if your Excelly Cannot take such Step, that it will be done in an Illegal Manner

I inclose your Excellcy a Copy of Mr Richard Dallams Letter, in Consequence of which I seiz'd John H. Cromwell, who was by Mr Lindenberger Committed to my Guard, thinking it safer than the Jail. John Paul & 4 others are Carried on to the Marquis, whose Mode of Trial no doubt will be very summary, perhaps Cromwell would be better Examined there Should your Excelly think so, a Guard from Capt Moore's Horse can go with him, I Beg your Excellys attention to our want

[Rich'd Dallam, Abingdon, to Mr. James Calhoun, Merchant, Baltimore.]

April 11
Red Book
No. 27
Letter 67

It appears by the deposition of Major Wm McPherson that John Paul came on Board the Brig Nesbitt taking her to be a British Vessell, and Informed them that he had two Vessells loaded with Flour ready to be sent on Board on his return, one of the Vessells we have secured, the other went off commanded by Wm Groves, before the Major arrived, the Flour on Board this Vessell I am Informed was Bought by John Hammon Cromwell of your Town & most certainly prepared for the Enemy I have therefore thot it proper to give you the Information that Cromwell may be apprehend'd on suspicion, John Paul & others all now prisoners with the Marquis & I hope

April 11 Red Book No. 27 Letter 67

that a discovery of consequence will be made, I have long suspected that Paul was carrying on a Trade with the English but am Convinced that he was only made use of by others

April 12 Red Book No. 27 Letter 65

[Thos. Sprigg to Gov. Lee.]

Agreeable to your request I have Attempt'd to March the recruits from this Co^{ty} to Fred^{k} but they to a man Contend that they were promis'd a suit of Cloaths before they left the Co^{ty} and therefore refus'd to Obey, to Attempt any Violence would be thought Elegal, and Attended with desertions, I am much Pester'd with them for Provisions there is neither Beef nor Flour here, I hope some person may be Appoint'd to take Charge of And to furnish them with Provisions, Captn Price a Cont^{l} Officer is in this Co^{ty} and says he was direct'd to take Charge of the rec^{ts} I would be glad to heare from Your Eccel^{y} as soon as possible, the Bearer waits I am in haste

April 12 Thursday 12 o'Clock

[Stephen West, Woodyard to His Excellency Governor Lee in Council] (by Lansdale's Boy)

Very indifferent Health and Variety of disagreeable Circumstances, have prevented my being at Annapolis; as I intended—every white Man of my family capable of bearing Arms are marched with the Marlbro Company to Potowmack. I am informed that several of the Enemys Vessells were yesterday at or near Alexandria but did not land any Men there; one large Ship ran aground near Mr Digges wharff & lies there—most of the Inhabitants on Potowmack near the River—Hanson, Roser, Magruder, Digges & others, I hear, have abandoned their Houses—so have those on Patuxent, from Perrys to Nottingham; & alarms are hourly spread of the approach of the Enemy & of their depredations on both Rivers. I wrote to your Excellency yesterday, that the Militia of this County, on Patuxent, have no Arms, but 30 of those I delivered; all the others & those which have been sent from Annapolis are engaged on Potowmack; wherefore there is a pressing necessity for an additional Number of Arms & Cartridge Boxes for the use of the Militia Companies on Patuxent; I shall endeavour to see Col. Beall, the L^{t}, & the Field officers of the Battalions this Evening on Potowmack & advise with them as to some regular plan of defence for the County, which is at present alarmed & bewildered more, than you can at a distance, perhaps, imagine. I have a Confirmed Account that 2 or 3 Boats with Men from the Ship aground near Mr Digges Wharff said to be of 50 Guns landed yesterday Evening but were beaten off by a party of Militia there under Lyles—I have sent to him for intelligence which as soon as I receive I will forward by the Post or otherwise. I have seen a Man who saw the ships go up yesterday Afternoon 4 ships a top sail schooner & Barge—

Lansdale's Boy is just come & confirms the proceedings, & says, if the Militia had 1 9 pounder they cou'd take the (60 Gun) ship that is still aground—it is said our People have sent to George Town for a piece of Cannon—the Enemy are industriously lightening the Ship—If you think it worth your time to examine the Boy he can inform you further—but perhaps you have much better intelligence than I have—I thought it however my duty to mention what has occurred. April 12 Thursday 12 o'Clock

[H. Hollingsworth, Head of Elk, to His Excellency the Governor & Council.] April 13 Red Book No. 30 Letter 104

And please your Excell^cy & Honours I did myself the honour of writing you on the 11th Informing the prospect I had of provisions from the County Commissarys of this Shore, since which I have received nineteen head of Fat Cattle of Joseph Bruff Esqr which were forwarded to the Marquises detachment immediately (which then lay at Susquehanna) I then informed that I apprehended great difficulty in executing your orders regarding the removing the Stores and provisions from the Head of Chester to this place, as the Marqueses detachment had impressed all the Teams and horses in this neighboured, and as my utmost exertion has been used since to obtain a Brigade of Teams without effect; I am now constrained to solicite your Excellency and honours that the Teams impress'd from this Neighbourhood be returned from Baltimore as soon as possible as I have no prospect of executing your orders regarding the removeing the provisions without them, there being no Teams below, nor any here but what are gone with the detachment. I am emboldened thus to intreat your Honourable Board, as I flatter myself Teams can be had in Baltimore Town and county, for the use of the detachment.

I have wrote the several Commissarys below the Head of Chester to have their provisions properly put up and removed to that place, have given orders to two Vessels to attend as near that place as the depth of the water will admit of, as the prospect of Teams is so discourageing, if any danger appears from the Enemys Vessels I must Intreat that I be informed of it, and I shall order these Vessels to the Head of the River great complaints are made by the commissarys below for want of Teams to collect the provisions I have applyed to Mr Williams to purchase the Forage as ꝑ your request, in answer to which he intreats me to write you for money to enable him to comply with your order, and as I am obliged to hire Teams, Vessels, Coopers, nails &c^a must earnestly request that an order on the Eastern Shore Treasury be sent to Mr Williams, and one to myself to enable us to execute your orders in purchasing Forage and forwarding the Provisions, Inclosed Mr Tench Francis Certificate regarding the Purchase of flour for the Bank in my last,

April 13 Red Book No. 30 Letter 104 am now waiting your orders on the Eastern Shore Treasury as it is in vain for me to go down without it, do flatter myself the Teams from this neighbourhood will be returned as soon as possible,

P. S. Just now came hear a Mr Shearer from Newcastle Delaware who says He spoke the Captain of a Brigg from the Capes of Delaware who assured Him that He had been in Company with the second Division of the french fleet consisting of nine Ships of the Line and a number of Transports which He says every body credited at New Castle, and that He Left the Fleet Just off the Capes of Dellaware

April 13 [Dan'l Hughes, Balt., to Gov. Lee.]

As I intend to remove from this on thirdsday next to Washington County, some person will be wanting to take charge of the Seamen Prisoners of war. If you choose them to be sent forward under the Continental line of Exchange before I leave this, they shall be sent. If I should not hear from you, I will get Major Smith to take charge of them.

April 13 Red Book No. 7 Letter 213 [Richard Peters, By order, War office, to Gov. Lee]

The Board having been for some time apprehensive for the Safety of the Provisions belonging to the United States in the States of Delaware & Maryland, have directed the Commissy General of Purchases to proceed immediately to those States & cause the stores to be removed to Places of Security. We are therefore to request your Excelleicy & The Honble Council that every assistance in your Power may be afforded him in guarding & transporting the Provisions. We have made a similar request to the Honble Council of the Eastern Shore of your State.

April 13 Red Book No. 27 Letter 62 [Stephen Steward, West River, to the Honnebell Governer & Counsell]

Honnebell Gentellmen I shuld have waited on you before now but am so unwell I am not able to Ride you may Depend I will be up on Munday If I am able to Ride

April 14 Saturday [Jno. Hammond, Head of Severn, to Gov. Lee.]

I am to request your order to Captn Philn Warfield, for the Redelivery of my Flatt & Barge to me, which now lie in a ruinous Condition at Indn Landing; the former lying high & dry on the Beach, & being robb'd of the Oars belonging to her, tho' branded with my proper Mark; and the latter, having (as I am informed) one of her Gunnels broke loose; two thirds of her Chain stolen off, and her Oars also taken away; that it seems, a Guard are paid for the safe Custody of them. The Flat was sent down by me, to Mr John Halls, Salt works, in Consequence of a Letter recd from Mr Elijuh Robasson, informing, it was your Command, My Vessel should be removed

thither, or on Refusal, that they shou'd be split in Pieces: From thence, it was brought up to the Indian Landing, whither my Barge was also conveyed, and where each has suffered the Injury, and I the Loss, above complained of: Had they not been removed out of my Possession, they still wou'd have remained safe and sound, as I had intended, & still do intend, on the Return of my Flatt to me, to convey her the first high Tide, up Severn River, and to sink her therein, just below Swan Bridge; and to lock up my little Boat or Barge at my Plantation adjoining it. And I hope, it will not be doubted, that I am, at least, inclined, to take as much Care of my own Property, or indeed more, then other Persons, (tho' appointed a Guard over it) will do for me: And as for any illegal or improper use that might be made of my vessels, with my Privity, I hold myself responsible to the State. If they remain much longer at Ind^n Landing, they will be found in the same Plight & Condition, my Negro Quarter at my Brick Kiln by Annapolis, is reduced to, by the Soldiery lately placed there; I mean totally destroyed; all the Floor above & below Stairs being ripp'd up, & the Doors & Hinges torn off, & carried away with the cheif of the Railing of an Inclosure that adjoined the Premisses. I therefore renew my request for Y^r order for the Redelivery of my Vessels to me: April 14 Saturday

[Pat Sim Smith, Calvert, to Gov. Lee.] April 14 Red Book No. 27 Letter 68

The bearer hereof Mr George Bayfeild has charge of and will deliver Twelve fatted Steers, all I have as yet received in this County near half of them are very large and fine the others tho. not so large are good young Beef. I have had them feeding a long time and they have destroyed a great deal of provision. You will please order a receipt to be given for them on the delivery.

There must be a mistake respecting the warrant mention'd to have been sent me to procure flesh provision, I have received none, nor any Instructions lately for that purpose, Beef on the hoof has been offered me & very fine, but the want of orders & the Cash has prevented my engaging.

I am now very considerably in arrears daily pressed for money & have not a farthing to pay. I wish to know if there is a prospect of my getting any, the people are distressed for it to pay their Taxes. The State flour I have removed from Col^o Fitzhughs Mill some distance into the Country as twas very unsafe there no opportunity has yet offered for removing the Salt meat provision, but will have it done as soon as possible for fear of Accidents.

[Don'l Yeates, D. Q. M., Elk, to Gov. Lee.] (p Captn Garland) April 14

Captain Wirt and some other Gent^n Sufferers in this County by the ravages of the Enemy have Applied to me for the Barge brought

April 14 up here by the Marquis, in order to fit her out to Act for a small time against the small Enemys Boats, this Application is seconded by Col° Thompson Captain Garland is proposed to Conduct this matter I have reason to believe him of proper Carrecter and well Attached to our Independance I know nothing of the Circumstance of this Boat and as he is the bearer you will be pleased to give such order as you think most proper

April 15 12 o'Clock [Jos^a Beall, Broad Creek, to His Excellency Thomas Sim Lee.]

The Enemies Gott under way this morning about 6 o'Clock, and before set out for this place had got Down as Low as Coll^l Masons. On Thursday morning Cap^n William Dent Beall who undertook the command of the men who had turned out as Select Militia and several others who joyned them on this Occasion Marched with a about 20 who formed themself into a body of Light horse to get forward to Assist in opposing the Enemie in Case of their Landing, as the Enemie were then moved down to the mouth of Piscataway Thursday Evening the Enemie sent a flag on Shore to Coll^l Lyles demanding a supply of fresh provisions, which being refused, they Land^d about a hundred men under cover of the their cannon & burnt all his buildings, in this Attempt some of Cap^n Bealls party, 7 of them got a fire at them on their Landing & those prisoners say wounded 5 of them 1 or 2 Mortily.

The Enemie got under way on fryday morning but the wind blowing Hard at North West they all came to again, I ordered the remainder of Cap^n Bealls Company to joyne him, who was Stationed with some other Militia under Coll^l Lyles As a guard to Mr Bonds Houses & Property, Yesterday morning some of the Enemys boats were a shore at Lyleses fishing landing killing some Hogs that had got Down about the Landing, in the Evening 2 of their boats again Landed with the Sailing Master of the Hope & ten men in one, the Purser & 6 men in another, who had got on shore strolling about, when Leiv^ts Osborn Williams & Henry Lyles with a party of Young Men pushed in & cut them off from their boat, & took the sailing Master, Boat & all his crew amounting to Eleven in the whole & brought them off in the face of the Enemie Notwithstanding the fire of their cannon, In short Sir this was as brave an Action as was Ever performed by men, as they were Exposed to the fire of three of their Vessels at a short distance from them I do not think I shall do them justice if I do not return Your Excellency a roll of their Names, I sent an Express to Coll^l Lyles this morning desireing he would Observe the Movements of the Vessells & in Case they continue their course down the River, shall Discharge the Militia this Evening or Tomorrah morning.

P. S. Inclosed is a list of the Prisoners who I have sent under Guard to the Goal of this county till your further orders respecting them.

List of Prisoners taken at the mouth of Piscatoway 14th Apl 1781 April 15 12 o'Clock

Thos Scott Sailing Master of the Ship Hope

George Taffe
Patrick Cahee
Dunken Campbell } Sailors
James Cotterel
Joseph Bennet

John Riley
Patrick Hayney
John Dixon } Marines
Thos Smith
Bryan Goodwin

[Jas. Hamilton, Frederick Town, to H. E. Governor Lee.] April 15 Red Book No. 32 Letter 38

I am this moment informed by Mr Hoakesly that the long expected flag of Truce Vessel from New York is arrived in Hampton road Virginia for the Troops lately of the Convention of Saratoga

Before I left Virginia I wrote his Excellency Governor Jefferson that on the arrival of the flag I hoped he would allow her to proceed through such part of his Government as was necessary to reach the most convenient port in Maryland to where the Troops might be station'd which request on Governor Jefferson's part I make no doubt will be granted, and hope for the same indulgence from your Excellency, by giving Orders that the Vessel may be allowed to pass to George Town and that Mr Hoakesly for the British & Capt. Gairlock for the Germans may be allowed to Land & see conducted to their respective destinations, the several Charges they are intrusted with, likewise to be allowed to Land themselves with all expedition & to proceed here as the same packet brings me information that all the officers are to be exchanged immediately & the means for clearing Quarters entrusted to those two Gentlemen.

The more expedition used in granting my request, so necessary in our present Situation the more obliging it will be.

P. S. It may be necessary to grant with passports for the two Gentlemen mention'd one for Mr D. P. Master Geddes to receive from Mr Hoakesly the Cash for the Troops, an Escort for the Guard of which may be necessary & which I hope your Excellency will be pleased to order.

[W. Macpherson, Major, Susquehannah Ferry, to Major General the Marquis De La Fayette] April 15 Red Book No. 32 Letter 62

I have the honor to inform you, that Walter Pigot, the Prisoner, that conducted me to the Town of Jopa, has mention'd, two other Persons, that were on board, the Brittish Ships when off Annapolis—

April 15 Red Book No. 32 Letter 62 one a Resident of the Town of Baltimore, (Joshua Dorsey by name) the other residing in the Forrest a few miles from Jopa—Edward Conard by name—this is all the information the Prisoner has afforded me, in addition to what he gave in your presence

P. S. When at Jopa I took up in consequence of the information of Paul and Pigot—two men—Johnathan Paul and Jesse Duning—both of which I brought up by the request of the People of Jopa—they being fearful that if left with them they woud escape. John Warner whom I likewise apprehended attempting to make his escape—was very dangerously wounded and left behind.

[Richd Barnes, Leo^{d} Town, to His Excellency Thos Sim Lee, Esqr.]

I have sent the Bearer Mr John Mills for the ballance of the Arms &c. which Mr Thomas says he had an order for. If a few Gun Locks could be spared they would be very useful. At any rate shuld be obliged to you to send me some bullet Molds, that will make an Oz: and Oz: and quarter Ball, as it is not in my power to get them made here, and the greatest part of the Lead we have, is in Bars, and Ball, of a very improper size. I shall have those people that are on St Georges Island removed to the main, You will be kind enough to pay Mr John Mills the whole expence of sending for the Arms &c, as I have no money and am totally unacquainted with the price of such things. It will not be in my power to do what is proper unless I am supplyed with money. I wrote to you the other day informing of the Enemys Vessels all of which I am informed are up Potomack. Several Ships & Brigs have just appeared off St Georges as I have been told, but at any rate there is some of their Vessels there which added to those that went up Potomack will make their force to us very formidable.

April 16 [Joshua Beall, Lieu^{t} P^{s} G^{s} Cty Bladensburgh To His Excellency Thomas Sim Lee] (p^{r} Mr. Turnbull)

I received bouth yours of the 9th instant by Mr Turnbull who Will deliver you this, The 50 stand of Arms together with the Accutrements & powder I sent of this Evining by a Waggon for Montgomery County, The arms for the Liev^{t} of Charles County I shall send off immediately on the return of the Waggon that now comes with Mr Turnbull for the Accutrements by which I should be Glad to receive some Cartrege paper if there is any to be spared from the Magazine, there being no such thing to be had here, I sent your order to Mr West, the officer who went with the order on his return told me there were but 111 stand all of which had been sent over to Patuxent on Acc^{t} of the alarm there. As they seem to be Attacking us on both sides I propose keeping some of the Militia constantly on duty on each river while there is any of the Enemie in or near them

in case of their sudden approach, to be ready to Assist the people in driving off their Stock, and securing their property & Craft along shore. April 16

I shall be more particular in any inteligence I shall communicate for the future, my first to you on this Occasion was from a letter of Mr George Lees to Mr Sydebottram in which he Earnestly requested the Assistance of his or any other Craft to remove himself & Effects up to Bladensburgh, my second with respect to burning Portobacco Warehouse was by a letter from Coll[l] Addison to myself. I had an oppertunity from Piscatoway yesterday of writing to Coll[l] Ware desiring that he would for the future on any such alarms of the Enemie coming up the river, Endeavour to get the best inteligence he could of the appearance of their forces, & send an Acc[t] thereof to Coll[l] Lyles below Piscatoway who is to send it forward to Coll[l] Addison & he to me, such a Chain of inteligence might prevent a great deal of unnecessary Expence Trouble, & confusion.

If you approve of the scheem of keeping part of the militia on duty, I could wish to know how they are to be supported in provision, Whether by the commissary, or find themselves during a short Touer of duty, & paid money in Lieu of the rations, & how mutch.

[Chris[r] Birckhead Talbot County to His Excellency Tho[s] Sim Lee Esq[r]] April 16

I am informed that there is a late Act of Assembly, respecting the Regulation of the Militia: Should take it as a favour if I cou'd be furnish'd with it

[H. Hollingsworth, Head of Elk, to His Excellency the Governor in Council.] April 16 Red Book No. 30 Letter 106

And please Your Excell[cys] & Honours Notwithstanding my letters of the 11th and 13th I am now constrained to inform you that Col[o] Ephraim Blain C. G. of Purchases (who will be with you before this) has lodged a letter at my office on this day, acquainting that he is on his way to your Excellency & Honours, and so by Kent Island to the Eastern shore, in order to hasten the provisions out of it towards Trentown, as every necessary directions has been given to the Commissarys of each Counties to have their provisions collected put up and forwarded to the Head of Chester according to your former Orders I have only to acquaint your Excellency and Honours that the Teams belonging to this and the adjacent Countys which went with the Marquis are not returned, and that I am too feeble and poor to go into distant Countys to hire Teams for this Service unless strengthened by your Honourable Board. I therefore most earnestly Intreat that an order be sent me by Col[o] Blain (if not already sent) (according to my former application) on the Eastern shore Treasury, for such a sum as may be thought sufficient to defray the expence

April 16 Red Book No. 30 Letter 106 of the several Services required, which shall be layed out to best advantage, I am sorry to inform your Excellency and Honors that I am grown too poor in your Service (and that of the Continent) to undertake this matter without; public officers being much out of Credit with the people at large, and as this business is to be done at a distance from home I have no prospect of doing it with the necessary dispatch without money, Col° Yeates called on me last night to know what prospect I had of procuring him Forage, this I mention as I am Sensible Mr Williams has it not in his power to procure any untill money or an order on the Treasury is sent him, Colo. Blain will furnish a good opportunity to forward those orders to Mr Williams and myself, and I shall endeavour to persuad him to go down the State with me, where corn may be had on the best Terms and if the Bay continues clear a few days, may be sent up by Craft, which as we shall attempt from the difficulty of getting waggons I must Intreat the earliest Inteligence be given us if any of the Enemies Cruisers appear to be standing up,

April 17 [Jos^a Beall, Lieu^t P^s G^s Cty Bladensburgh to His Excell^y Thos Simm Lee, Esqr]

Agreeable to order I have sent the Prisoners Under Guard committed to the Care of Cap^n William Patterson now a resident of this Town a person who has formerly been in the regular Service & has shewn a good deal of Spirit in Turning out on the present occasion. It is with Pleasure I can asshure Your Excellency & Honors that the Militia of this county Turned out with Spirit & alacraty nothing but arms were wanting to have embodied a Considerable force on the river, inclosed you have a list of those Brave men who Attacked the Enemies boats under the Muzzalls of the Cannon of their shiping, & secured one of their Boats & Crew out of three that landed, and there is reason to belive that another of their boats crews suffered very mutch as I could perceive but very few hands in her, on her return, to their shiping, who sent another Boat off to Assist her in geting along side. Wee have only to regret the want of some field Peices & persons who could have managed them well, had that been the case I think it would have been in our powers last friday to have destroyed all their shiping excepting one that fell down Earley in the morning, the rest had all got under way, but from the winds springing up very hard from the North West about sun rise they were all obliged to come to in a Cluster within about half a mile of Mr Diggses Point where they were obliged to remain that and the Next day, on Sunday morning they got under way earley in the morning I sent an Express to Coll^l Lyles desiring he would observe their motion and Act with the men under his command Accordingly, and to let me know if they Attempted a landing below, and went myself to broad creek to meet the prisoners, to send them to some

place of Security, when I returned to Mr Diggses, I understood Coll^l^ Lyles had sent some men Down the river on horse back who returned and informed him they saw the Enemie under way nearly as Low down the river as Maryland Point on which he had Discharged all the Militia below Piscatoway Creek without my orders upon which I discharged the Militia above. As I shall be under some dificulty with respect to rates of hire, of horses & carriages, I shall be mutch oblige to your Excell^y^ to let me know what they are otherwise I shall be mutch Pusselled about settleing & paying the Expence Occasioned by this Alarm, Likewise what is to be allowed the men in Leiu of their rations, as many of them have drawn no provision from the commissary, Neither did he Acquaint me, who the persons were he had appointed to Issue rations. I receiv^d^ yours respecting the raising a body of light horse in this county, which I am now convinced will be very Esential in opposing the Enemie for their Attempts on the property of the people; I would wish to know the terms on which they are to be raised, whether to find their own horses, and how they are to be recompenced in Case of Loss, were I able to inform the people in those points, I think there will be no difficulty in raising them in a short time. I have not yet seen the Act past last Sessions relative to the Militia, I have ordered a fresh class of the Militia to be made out in such a manner that the officers & men who live most convenient to the rivers may be confined to their Touer of duty on the river they live nearest to, which will save loss of time Trouble & Expence in marching them from one river to another on any immergencey I dont know how far the Law may support me, but I think the Necessity of the times will justifie the measure, And have therefore ordered a sceizure of all the arms in the county, and such as can be made fit for Use to be put into the hands of some person to be repaired, wee have a man near this Town who has been an Armorer in the Army who they say is a good hand but rather Idle, and might require a person to overlook him, Mr John Turnbull an inhabitant here who has proved himself a Zealous & Active person in our Cause would make an Exceeding good hand for this purpose, should your Excellency or Honors approve of this Scheeme. April 17

[P. S.] Just before closing this John Turnbull Quarter Master of the Upper Battalion who I had ordered to press men and horses to Guard the prisoners to Annapolis informs me that many persons who he pressed for that purpose absolutely refuesed to go themselves or let him have their horses, if some Steps are not taken with those people it will be impossible for me to forward any busness whatever

List of the Officers & men who captured the Boat Crew.

Lieu^t^ Osborn Williams; J. Queen, Ensign; John Oakley appointed to Act on this occasion as Brigade Major; Henry Lyles, Guide.

April 17 Joseph Cross (of Thomas) highly worthy of the Esteem of every brave man. Privates: Isaac Duckett, Samuel Wheeler, R^d^ Burgess (volunteer), Zachariah Moore, Walter Williams, Thomas Sansbury, Henry Hilleary, Richard Hill, Thomas Holly, James Perry Jun., James Buckham, Benjamin Sansbury, William Shaw, Benjamin Oden, Henry Onions, Aaron Beall, James Wood, Waring Belt, William Turner, John Sansbury, James Wilson, John Magill, John Tyler, James Tate, Robert Lanham, Benjamin Fowler, Thomas Bennett, Joseph Gordon.

April 17 [Charles Blake, Corsica, to His Excel: Thos S. Lee Esquire] (p^r^ Captn Holmes)

By the Lottery Captn Holmes I have the Honour to transmitt y^r^ Excl. 87 barrels and three Tierces of Salt provisions part beef part pork some collected for Taxes and the rest purchased the whole meat contained in the 87 barrels when green amounts to 23709½ lbs by the same opportunity I also send 111 pieces of bacon 1422¼ lb procur'd agreable to y^r^ Excel^cys^ order of the 7th of March the rest was fresh on the hoofe and has been sent to Col^o^ Hollingsworth when the Marquis was at Elk, which the Col^o^ says arrived very seasonably; the Col^o^ has also sent for all the Salt provisions but y^r^ orders came too soon for his. Captn Holmes would have had greater dispatch but the provisions were removed five miles from the water when the Enimy were up; and his Men are very idle in getting it on board and I am afraid will injure the barrels much.

April 17 [George Dashiell, Som^t^ County, to The Honble. Matthew Tilghman, Esquire, Talbott Co^ty^]

Yours of the 13th Ins^t^ I rec^d^ p^r^ Doct^r^ Winder and agreeable to your request shall procure all the lead from individuals that I possibly can, but am apprehensive that it will not be in my power to obtain but very little if any in the county I have Call'd on the Colo^s^ for a return of the lead which they have on hand and find that we have not in the County more than Twelve Hundred Cartridges and neither Powder nor lead to make more. As the q^ty^ of cartridges which I have is not sufficient for the Militia which I am under an Absolute necessity of keeping on duty, I should be glad of an order on the Lieu^t^ of Worcester for a Supply of Each (if it can be spared from that County) until I am otherwise furnished he informs me that he has 10 or 12 barrels of Powder but I dont know what Q^ty^ of lead he has by him. As I apprehend he has made you a return of the public Ammunition in that Co^ty^ You can best Judge wheather he Can supply me or not. Inclosed is a list of persons recommended to fill up the Vacancies in the Salisbury Battalion I request the fav^r^ of you to Issue Commissions for them agreeable to the return. Your fav^r^ of the 9th Ins^t^ I rec^d^ with Two barrels of Cannon Powder One ream of Cartridge paper and flints.

A List of the names of The several persons recommended by the field officers to supply the Vacancies in the Salisbury Battalion of Militia in Somerset County. April 17

Levin Irving, Major; For the Salisbury Comp^{y}, Wm Byng, 2nd Lieu^{t}; George James, Ensign.

For the Barren Creek Comp^{y}, McKimmey Porter Ensign.

For the Quantico Company, Edward Kellum 1st Lieu^{t}; Joseph Piper 2nd Lieu^{t}; James Phillips Ensg^{n}.

For the Quantico Comp^{y}, Joseph Wails Ensg^{n}.

For The Nanticoke Point Comp^{y}, John McClester Capt, Jno Evans (of Nicholas) 1st L^{t}, Wm Stewart 2nd Lieu^{t}, Wm Waller Ensg^{n}.

For The Black Water Comp^{y}, Gilliss Polk Capt, James Hainey 1st Lieu^{t}, Isaac Henry 2nd Lieu^{t}, John Scroggin Ensg^{n}.

For the White Haven Comp^{y}, Joseph Cotman Capt, Wm Gale 1st Lieu^{t}, Willm Cotman 2nd ditto, Thos Holbrook Junr Ensg^{n}.

[Saml. Huntington, President Philadelphia to His Excellency Governor Lee] April 19 Red Book No. 8 Letter No. 40

Your Excellency will receive herewith enclosed, an Ordinance for establishing Courts for the Trial of Piracies and Felonies committed upon the high Seas, passed in Conformity to Articles of Confederation.

P. S. I have been Honoured with your Excellencys dispatches of the 23^{d} March & 8th instant.

[Joseph Ford, Leonard Town, to Gov. Lee.] (p Mr. Mills) April 17

What flesh provisions I procured, was sent Agreeable to your Excellencies order to George Town except Two Steers that I Received since my last appointment which I have delivered to the Militia hereby Coll Barne's orders we have had constantly on duty for this Two weeks about Two Hundred men, I have furnished them so far with provisions, but it has been with some difficulty as I had no money. I am indebted between four and five Thousand Pounds continental money and what further sum may be necessary depends on the time the Militia may be on duty If it can be conveniently spared I should be glad of about Two Hundred & fifty pounds of the new money what may with safty be sent by the Barer Mr John Mills, A circumstance which I did not think to mention to your Honorable Board, Respecting the Horse that I Received of the Reverend Mr Stephens a nonjuror now occurs that some time after I returned with him, he got into a neighbours Wheat field several times, at lenght he came home with his back bones nearly in two this together with the bad character he had got before was the Reason he sold so low, of this if it should be necessary I can procure the Vouchers of some Respectable People for, the Horse was so great a Rogue that I had come

April 17 to a determination to have Killed him in a few days if he had not been sold, the Lard Tallow & Hides of the Public in my care I should be glad to know what to do with, I enclose Doc^r Reeders certificate that St. Marys Warehouse is Burnt.

April 17 [Zacha Forrest, St. Marys County, to Gov. Lee]

The bearer Mr Mills brings with him a deserter from the Continental Army, not having a Goal in our county nor any Officer there to receive him and one other who was committed at the same time having escaped from me, are reasons which I hope will excuse me in begging that your excellency will order the said deserter to be taken in care by some Officer so as to discharge me. I also hope you'l be pleas'd to send some orders respecting the negro man under sentence of Death, he is young and healthy and would make a fine Soldier. if acquitted

April 17
Brown Book
No. 7
Letter 71

[Lafayette, Baltimore, to Gov. Lee]

I have the Honor to inform Your Excellency that the detachment under my command Have Passed this day through Baltimore and will encamp on the other side of the Ridge ferry where they will Remain to morrow By which time I may Be Honored with An Answer from Your Excellency

Intelligence from the Enemy and letters from General Greene oblige me to Enter as soon as possible into the State of Virginia—the fatigue of the troops, the Absolute want of shoes, and the desire of Having as many Rivers as possible Behind us to prevent desertion are the Reasons which, tho with Reluctance, Have forced me to impress a large number of Waggons to carry the troops as far as Potowmack. The distance Being But short, and the time of their service not Exceeding two days, I thought I might make a free use of the permission Given By Your Excellency and Council to impress every thing which would be necessary to forward the movements of this detachment. By a Letter from Baron de Strüben dated at Chesterfield Court House the 1st of this month I find that General Philips is Arrived with 1500 or 2000 Men—the Enemy keep still within their lines and their projects are as yet unknown

Some days ago I Had the Honor of Giving to Your Excellency An Account of a discovery I Had the Good Luck to Make Relating to a mode of furnishing flour to the Enemy which Many disaffected People within this state seem to Have Adopted. One Paul [illegible] a quaker Has Made His Escape, But if ever He was Retaken I Beg Leave to Request He would Be sent to the Military Authority.

Pigot Being Convinced of coming within the description of a Spy was Hanged at Susquehana ferry. Out of three others being Concerned in this trade who upon the information of Pigot were taken up, and whom the Lieutenant of the County Requested Major McPherson to Carry off with Him One Has Been shot in Attempting

to force His way from the Guard, the two others will Be delivered to Col. Smith—from the Confession of Pigot we Have Got two other Names which Your Excellency will find in the inclosed letter of Major McPherson, an officer to whose perseverance zeal and worth I am indebted for the discovery of this plot in which (on Account of the gale that Blew a little while after He got into the Barge) His life Has Been very much Endangered

April 17 Brown Book No. 7 Letter 71

I Had Yesterday the pleasure of seeing Col Smith's Regiment of Militia, and Am Happy in An opportunity to report to your Excellency How satisfied I Have Been with their Excellent Appearance this And other Preparations of defence made By this Town do Her citizens Great Honor. I am under the Greatest obligations to Captain Moore and the Gentlemen of His corps who most obligingly Have Exerted themselves in the procuring of our supplies.

I cannot finish this letter Before I do once more Express to your Excellency the concern I feel for the inconveniences which our passing through this State Brings upon its inhabitants Nothing makes me more unhappy than a necessity to impress Private property thereby distressing our Best Citizens. But Your Excellency and Council and indeed this whole State seem so much Aware of the danger the Southern States are under that upon such lively Representations of it as I Have Received is Because my duty to Hasten My March By uncommon Exertions

[Sam. Smith and Bowly & Stewart, Balt. to Gov. Lee.]

April 17 Red Book No. 27 Letter 69

When S. S. propos'd our Schooner Rover to Carry a Load of Corn for the State, he understood that it was already provided. We would have no objection to purchase it if the Money was Supplied us, but would not risk furnishing it at a Certain price, what it would Cost would be Charg'd & no more, on no Terms would we furnish the Money, We should gain nothing by the Comm. no person would do it for less than 5 ℘ct we Could not buy the Corn here, we should order the Vessell to the Eastern shore to which it would be absolutely necessary that our Schooner had protection.

Neither officers nor Men could be procur'd unless they were paid at least Two Months pay each in N. York, the amot of which they would Certainly bring back in Goods. I know the Circumstances with respect to the Debt & will take an order on the Cargo for the freight on Condition you will write to Genl Clinton to order it to be paid, if it not paid. We will then receive it here. The freight of 2/ ℘ Bus we accept.

April 17 Red Book No. 4 Letter 117 [copy: indorsed on back "Original with Mr. Meredith Balto."]

[T. Stone, Portobacco, to Gov. Lee]

Yesterday a Sixteen Gun Brig appeared off Swann Point & sent a Boat with six hands to destroy a vessel on the Stocks near that place eight Militia under Col Harris attacked them and took the Boat & Crew, the Prisoners are Ordered to Annapolis. This morning all

April 17 Red Book No. 4 Letter 117 [copy: indorsed on back "Original with Mr. Meredith Balto."]

the enemys vessels which were above sailed down Potomack and were below Cedar Point at eleven O'clock—they have done no damage since I last wrote you, except destroying Col Lyles house of which you have no doubt been informed I expect we shall have frequent visits from these plundering Banditts & hope we will so well prepare as to repel their attack that they will find the business as unprofitable as it is disgraceful. We thank your Excellency and Council for your kind attention in forwarding the Arms.

April 18 [Geo. Lindenberger, Baltimore Town to His Excellency Thos Sim Lee]

When I sent your Excellency my first Letter dated 11th Instant concerning Cromwel, I had no information on Oath nor any Deposition, as your Excelly will have no doubt observed, therefore I send a Letter to Richd Dallam Esqr desiring him to furnish me with Copys in Consequence of which he has sent me the Inclosed. I therefore think proper to transmit the same to your Excellency as Early as it was in my power

April 19 [Ridley and Pringle Baltimore, to His Excellency Thomas Sim Lee Esqr in Council]

It is with much Concern we perceive by your letter of the 12th Current that you reject the Certificate granted to us, in payment of the Specie due for the Purchase we made of Confiscated Property. If your Honble Board will take the trouble to revert to our Accot & for a moment reflect on the Circumstances, as well as the Disadvantages to which we are subjected, by being so long with held from Payment, we cannot doubt but that you will indulge our request especially, as the Act, to which you are pleased to use establishes our Title.

We beg leave to assure you that it is with the utmost reluctance we renew our application, but the urgency of our Situation lays us under that necessity.

April 20 [Benjamin Griffith, Commissary, to Gov. Lee.]

I have Deliver'd ten good Steers for the Marquis which will Averidge near two thousand pounds Each and Other Costs the Commissioners Can Draw on the Collector for two hundred pounds Only specie that will soon be Expended Other ways for halling and flour Casks, for those articles I advanc'd Above four thousand pounds before I receiv'd a shilling from the State. I hope your Honours will take those things under Consideration and send me pr Mr Jno Dorsey as much Cash as will pay for the Steers or a Draft on the Collector for so much I do not like to be Dun'd

[Eph. Blaine, C. G. P. Annapolis, to Govr Lee] April 20

I am ordered by the board of War to remove to places of safety all public provisions and Stores which come within my department in the State of Deleware, and Eastern shore Maryland.

Keeping in Idea that Trenton is to be the grand Deposit in all cases practicable—Your Excellency and Council will please to give orders for the Amount of all stores under the above discription upon the Eastern shore to the most convenient Landing upon the Delaware, prefering those above Dover, where I shall have persons appointed to receive and forward the same.

those of the Western shore wou'd wish deposited at or near to George Town upon Potomack, except a small temporary Magazine at Baltimore and Frederick Town, for passing troops those places being upon the line of Communication to the southern Army.

the danger which the Eastern shore and state of Delaware are exposed to, will require every Possible exertion for the removal of Public Property.

[Jas Hamilton, Frederick's Town, to the Governor and Council] April 20 Red Book No. 32 Letter 37

I received your answer to my request this morning, having no Bill of Invoice or information of what is required, I must beg leave to send Mr Hoakesley & Captn Gairlock a Copy of your Letter, & to request from you that after being satisfied with what is required that the Vessel may be allowed to proceed to Alexandria, there to unload the Cloathing Cash &c destined for the German Troops Quarter'd at Winchester, & to have leave to proceed in Waggons by such roads as the Governor of Virginia shall point out, after which the Vessel may proceed to George Town & Land what is order'd for the British in case of their remaining here, should the officers be exchanged previous to it, or sent from this the Cartel may return to New York.

Having no mode of conveyance to Captn Gairlock & Mr Hoakesley, I request that my Letters to them may be sent in such manner as you judge most proper.

[Sam Huntington, President, Philadelphia, to His Excy. Governor Lee.] April 20 Red Book No. 8 Letter 32

I am directed to acquaint your Excellency that the State of Maryland is unrepresented in Congress, having but one Delegate present for some Time past, and it is earnestly requested that a Representation may be kept in Congress at present, Matters very important & interesting require a full Representation from all the States. It is to be hoped & expected that one or more Delegates from Maryland may immediately come forward if not already on the Way.

April 21 [Jos[a] Beall, Lieu[t] P[s] G[s] C[ty] to His Excellency Thomas Simm Lee Esq[r]]

As the Prisoners sent from Charles County to the Sheriff here, is not only a Burden to him, but a Considerable Expense to the Publick in Keeping gard over them, I have ordered Cap[n] Duvall to take them from thence, & send them to Annapolis Under a guard of an officer & six men of that Company, & deliver them to the commanding officer there

April 21 [W. Bordley, Chester Town, Kent Coty, To The hon[ble] Mathew Tilghman Esq. President of the Special Council, Talbot]

I have employ'd Robert Blake to Slinge the Canteens & have made enquiry about the Price of Leather, the lowest I can procure it for, is 2/9 specie or the value in bills of credit p[r] pound, the price of slinging them will be six pence a peice, but we want to know where the money is to be had from, as those people will immediately want it, M[r] Blake says that he can make cartouch boxes to the number of four or five hundred, we are making cartridges & shall very soon finish our Lead. Cap[t] Crane some years ago tann'd two hides for the public, half of which he is to deliver for the above purpose.

P. S. We have wrote to Daniel Fisher & have sent to Baltimore for Files for the Gunsmith

April 21
Red Book
No. 8
Letter 16

[Sam. Huntington, President, Philadelphia, to His Excellency, Governor Lee.]

The United States in Congress assembled, deeming it proper & necessary to communicate to their Constituents in the several States, as fully as can be done, a proper Representation of their national Affairs, the Amount of the public Debts due from the United States, together with the Estimates for the current Year; having examined & agreed to the Report of their Committee on that Subject of the 18th Instant, I do myself the Honor to transmit your Excellency a Copy thereof.

April 22
1 o'Clock
Red Book
No. 27
Letter 70

[Sam. Smith, Balt., to Gov. Lee.]

Before the Rec[t] of yours of this Morning We had discover'd the Vessell standing up the Bay & looking into our River in Consequence I Had order'd out the Militia & Lookout Boats Joshua Dorsey is now in Calvert (I think) at his Sisters, the wife of a Late M[r] Lane or Cap[t] Lane between Rollins & lower Marlb[r] There was nothing among Cromwells papers that in the least Concern'd his present Charge. I want a 2nd Lieut for Capt. Dickenson's C[y] please appoint Jacob Brown

April 23 [Richard Curson, Baltimore, to His Excellency Thomas Sim Lee, Esqr.]

I Receiv'd your Excellencys Letter of the 13th Current in Councill, which I shou'd have answer'd sooner but M[r] Geo. P. Keeports

your Commissary was fully Employ'd by the Troops and Alarm here, prevented him from receiving the Goods till last Saturday, agreeable to the Account inclos'd, which Mr Keeports has Copy. I hope your Excy will find right as ꝑ Notation given Genl Gist, the Sundrie Invoices, being shewn Mr Keeports Corresponding thereto. April 23

I am extreamly sorry chief of the Oznabrigs was sold to Mr James Smith of Frederick before the Receipt of your Excy Letter, having inform'd Genl Gist if they were wanted for the State they shou'd have the Preferrence and so Considerable a Time had Elapsd, from the distance, I had no Idea they had occasion for them neither did the Genl mention any Thing to me on that Subject, when he came to Town.

[Inclosure] April 21

The State of Maryland ꝑr order of His Excy Thomas Sim Lee Esqr
Bout of Richard Curson.

The following Articles as ꝑ Agreemt if not Paid direct to be setl'd in Bills of Exchange at the Rate of 75 dollrs for 5 Livres Tournois

6	Pieces	Yorkshire	Cloth	246	Ells	@	14 vrs	ꝑ Ell	430.. 4..—
1	Piece	blue	do	40	do	@	16 "	ꝑ Ell	80..—..—
1	Piece	Scarlet	do	19	do	@	22 "	ꝑ Ell	52.. 2..—
1	Piece	blue	do	41	do	@	16 "	ꝑ Ell	82..—..—
1	Piece	ditto	do	38	do	@	18 "	ꝑ Ell	85.. 4..—
1	Piece	Scarlet	do	20	do	@	24 "	ꝑ Ell	60..—..—
1	Piece	blue	do	36	do	@	16 "	ꝑ Ell	72..—..—
45	Bristol duffd Blanketts @ pieces 2 vrs 4 vrs								112.. 4..—
2	Pieces Ticklenburg @ 8 Stivres ꝑ Ell.								58.. 2.. 4
2	Pieces Ornabrigs Congs			79					
				87					
				166 Gk Ellsis					
	276⅔ Dutch Ells @ 6 Stivrs ꝑ Ell								34.. 4.. 4
									1067.. 5.. 2
	By an abatement of 8 Dutch Ells @ 8 Stiv								1.. 2.. 4
									1066.. 2.. 4
	At a Cent								1066.. 2.. 4
	Pieces								2132.. 5.. 2

At 6/ pr Piece 8/8 is £639..16 at 120 for one Exchge £76776

Reserv'd 8½ dutch Ells of blue Cloth.

at 16 vrs ꝑr Ell Equal to	£5..2..—	
at a Cent on same	is £10..4..—	
at 120 for one Exchge		is 1224..—..—
		£75552..—..—

April 21 Receiv'd Baltimore 21 April 1781 of Richard Curson the within Specified Articles agreable to Account ꝑ the order of His Exc^y Thomas Sim Lee Esquire for the use of the State of Maryland.

Geo. P. Keeports

April 23 [Patrick Hamilton, Cecil County, to Gov. Lee]

When your attention must be taken up with the affairs of the State, it gives me uneasiness to trouble you with a matter relative to myself only. The great number of applications for relief, in consequence of a law passed last June Session, empowering the Commissioners of the tax to relieve those who had suffered by the enemy & the long indisposition of Col. Thompson, retarded the publick business so much, that I never got the Tobacco Tax & second 10£ Tax for last year settled with the Commissions before tuesday last. The next day I sett off in order to make a final settlement with the Treasurer, but, unfortunately for me, before I reached his house, he had gone to Annapolis. As the delay was not owing to any negligence in me, and as I am now fully prepared, & will wait on Mr Dickenson as soon as he returns. I hope your Excellency will not under a Scire Facias against me. If necessary, the Commissioners say they will certifie that the delay was not owing to me.

April 23 [Matt. Ridley, Phil^a, to Gov. Lee.]

I am informed by the Minister of his having wrote you relative to my passage. He promises me every assistance in his power. He has already wrote Compte de Vergennes that I may be expected & the purpose for which I go. He promises me personal Letters on my departure. I am now endeavouring to procure every influence & recommendation I can & am in hopes if the state does but provide proper Funds my attempt will not prove a fruitless one Be assured my wishes are ardent & that assiduity shall not be wanting to complete what I have so much at Heart.

A Vessel from the Havanah in ten days bring an Account of the Arival of the Fox. Her cargo sold I believe at 32 Dollars. The Spaniards went before Pensacola offers of surrender had been made, but refused—ten sail of Line went from Jamaica supposed for its relief. The Spaniards followed in two days after with 17 Sail of the Line & 7000 Troops. It was however expected the Force there would be in possession before either fleet could arrive A Vessel from L'Orient sail'd the 23^d Feb^ry brings advice that 51 sail of French Ships of Line lay in Brest. That Compte D'Estaign was at Paris A great reform had taken place in the Navy. Compte Guichen & Mons. LaGrasse had resigned. It is said Mon^s Maurepas has retired & that the Duke De Choiseul succeeds him—that the Dutch had given Orders for reprizals & the Northern Powers were determined to support them. The English had sent 28 Ships of the Line

under Digby and Darby to the relief of Gibralter. The French followed with 25 & the Spaniards had 32 before the place, which if not relieved was expected to Surrender in two months from February. No account of the second Division 28 Ships of Line were expected at Martinique & that Mons. Bougainville would come from there here with 8 Ships & 8000 Troops April 23

The Confederacy is taken by the Roebuck of 44 Guns & the Alfred Frigate without firing a Gun The Captain is much censured: and if all is true he deserves to be shot. The Vessell is a great loss having on board many useful supplies & some Specie

I have to beg of your honorable Board to prepare my instructions as fast as possible. I may be called hastily away & wish much not to go without them.

[Sam Huntington, to the Honble Matthew Tilghman Esqr] [April 23] Red Book No. 8 Letter 30

By a confidential person we are informed "that it may be depended on as a certainty that a very considerable embarkation has taken place in New York and has been ready for sailing for some days with which gen Sr H. Clinton is going."

NB. the foregoing Intelligence was receiv^{d} the 27th of April since which no farther accounts have been receiv^{d}

[Sam. Smith, Balt., to Gov. Lee.] April 23 Red Book No. 27 Letter 71

Three Ships, Two Brigs & a Small Schooner lay opposite the Mouth of our river, in the Ship Channell the Nearest ab^{t} 3 & the farthest at 5 Miles dist. from North Point we are not able to discover their Intentions. I Have the Town part of my Battalion under Arms to the Number of ab^{t} 650 Including Horse & Artillery & Have taken every precaution for the protection of this Place

Acco^{ts} from N. Point this Morning say they remain at anchor

[Richd Barnes, Leo^{d} Town to His Excellency Thos Sim Lee, Esqr] April 24

I find that it is impossible for the County to be protected against our present Enemy by the Militia, to have them to collect when they are wanted, and to have such numbers as are and must in that case be, who are totally improper for the purpose. In consequence of which I have taken the advice of Col^{s} Jordan, Fenwick & Thomas, who are of opinion, that one hundred and Twenty men, shuld be immediately raised, part of which to be Horse, and kept together whilst the Enemy continue in the Bay. I have so far agreed with them in opinion, as to order from all the Companys of Militia in the Co^{ty} one hundred Men of those that can be best spared, and are most proper, to render service, part of which to be [Horse] not exceeding thirty, which I suppose will take near a Week to accomplish fully, and to have them stationed till the Enemy return down

April 24 the Bay at the mouth of Patuxent, and afterwards kept in such places as will best answer the purpose of scouring the Co^{ty} Shuld this not meet with your approbation you are only to let me know your sentiments which shall be complyed with. On the return of the Enemy down Potomack one George Howard from this Neighbourhood went to them and carryed five negroes that was known of, four of which were the Revd Mr Waltons. Mr James Adderton who was taken by the Enemy when they landed at St Inigoes informed me, that when he was on board one of their Ships in St Marys, one of the Ships Crew who he was acquainted with asked him if he knew Geo: Howard, and told him, that such a one pointing to Howard, was the Person, and that he brought nine negroes with him, when he came on board, Howard I am inform'd was sent to Frederick by some Gent^{n} some short time before he left this, and it is said, that he Brought some Letters from the Convention Troops, which he carryed to the Enemy, I have been thus particular as he has a right to about one hundred and fifty acres of Land for life, with I suppose some other property which his Wife and Family are now in possession of, the whole Family I am informed are good for but little. Aught they not immediately to have every thing takin from them as a warning to others. Particularly as Howard was a Native and had takin the oathes to Government, I observe your Sentiments relative to the Militia being furnished with spirituous liquor my intention at the time was only to give it to those Men that were on guard, in bad weather, and when they were fatigued in marching which If not granted, there are but very few that will in such casses have it in their power to get any, for in general our People are very poor, and their are times when it will be proper, for them to be supplyed with it, particularly if they are kept together. I am informed that the officers in the upper Batt^{n} got the quarter master to supply the Militia that were on Wiocomico with some Brandy while the Enemy were up Potomack, without my knowing any thing of it which in future I shall prevent If it shuld not be directed by you to the contrary. I have inclosed you Mr Mills Acc^{t} of the expence of sending to Annapolis by him for Arms, whether it is right or not, I am totally at a loss to determine, not knowing the value of the money, or having the least knowledge of such business, in the present situation of our affairs, I therefore flatter myself you will direct the Auditor to settle it, and send it to me, and if more money shuld be wanted, than the hundred Dollars delivered to Mr Mills that you will put it in my power to settle it, together with the expence of sending an express to you some time past, business of this sort ought to be paid if it is expected that it will be in my power in future to have any thing of the kind executed.

[Robert Ballard, Baltimore, to His Excellency, Tho. S. Lee.] April 24

I am constrained to ask for a Priviledge, which is not induced from want of inclination to serve my country, but from inability. I am call'd on by the Officers of this place to enrol myself as a private on some company of Militia, and to do duty accordingly. By a fall from a carriage, I unfortunately got my Arm broke in such a manner, that I am rendered incapable of bearing Arms. I mean a Musket. I must therefore take the liberty of asking for such exemption as will preclude the officers from all right of calling on me in future. Col° Forrest who does me the honor to hand this, will inform your Excellency of the Propriety of my claim.

[Chas. Blake to The Honble Mat: Tilghman, Esquire] April 24

I rec^d yrs of the 18th requesting a return of provisions, and ordering the bacon in barrels; the Salt provisions are all gone to Annapolis by his Excellencys order, and the flour is now going off to the Head of Chester by Col° Hollingsworth's order. I have 740 bus: of Wheat at Wye Mill trifling else where. I have four Waggons which will be down to you by Col° Hollingsworth's order in two or three days, to draw any provisions in the hands of the Commissarys to the Head of Chester or where you may direct.

[Dan'l Carroll, Philadelphia, to Gov. Lee.] April 24 Red Book No. 5 Letter 78

The Board of War having spared to the Special Council for the Eastern shore, & to the Virginia Delegates a number of the Rampart peices, I coud not obtain an order for more than 500, they have likewise given me an order for 2 four pound Brass Field pieces compleat If 4^lbs Ball should be wanting it will be proper to mention the number you woud have. It not being safe to send the arms by water I presume you will order waggons up or some to be procured here.

The following is an extract of a Letter from Genl Washington. " Head quarters New Windsor Ap^l 16th 81. I have received advices through different chanels corresponding with that transmitted Congress by Mr Foreman. They strongly assert that a further detachment is going from New York & that it is to be commanded, by Genl Clinton, but they are not equally positive as to the destination being for Delaware In the present State of Southern Affairs 'tis perhaps more probable that Clinton is going to take the Command there.

The Letter from St Pierre dated the 18th of March in the encloss'd paper is from Mr Parsons Agent for Congress—to the Board of Admiralty. The intelligence from the Havanna is thro Don Francisco.

Some exchanged officers arrived here in a flag from Charles Town, they left it 13 days past & informs us that Genl Sumpter had taken the Enemies post at 96 & made about 300 prisoners.

We have reason to believe the Confederacy is taken by two British frigates.

April 24
Red Book
No. 27
Letter 72

[Thos Scott, Mr. of His Maj's Sloop Hope, to Gov. Lee.]

I Beg leve to memoorall your Excelency and the Honerable Councill of Annapolis in behalfe of my selfe and the rest of the prisoners of war Now in your Gole and as there is a number of prisoners ent^{d} the ships belonging to this State and Likewise at Porthmouth suffering the same fate by being kept from theare Houses as the ships are up the bay. I Emmagin wold be easey to Negotiate an Exchange by flagg as they come Down I beleve there is privates anough^{t} on b^{d} the ship to Exchange what is heare and if your Honorable Counsell think fitt to propose mee for Captn Midleton I Dont Dout but itt will be Excepted and if not wo^{ld} Esteeme itt as the Greatest favour if you wo^{ld} Lett a flagg Goe on b^{d} and Gett us our Cloathes as wee are in the Greatest Destress for want of Linens to Shift ourselves with

April 24

[John Voorhees, C. P., George Town, to The Honorable Matthew Tilghman]

Agreeable to order you have inclos'd a return of the Provision collected in this County. The Wheat is now Manufact^{g} & will soon be ready, if there is no delay for the want of barrels, and nothing will procure them but the ready Money, wch I am quite run out off Money will also be wanted for the removal of the Stores without money nothing can be done, we have no C^{r} you will (I have no doubt) see the Proprietay of Furnishing money, a draft on the Collecter of this County for £200 Specie or the Value in paper will pay y^{r} Grinding, & other Expences, at least will ennable me to execute your future Orders.

Return of Provisions by John Voorhees C. P. for Kent Co.
24 Ap^{r} 81.

1508 Bu^{s} Wheat Now Manuf^{g} at different Mills
67 barrels Flour at George Town
3 bar^{s} Pork do
½ bar^{s} Beef do
8, or 9 Beaves on ye hoof at different places.

April 24
[Indorsed
"Cashiered
26 Ap^{l}
1781"]

At a General Court Martial held in Baltimore Town by Order of General Buchanan for the Trial of Sunday persons on the 24th day of April Seventeen Hundred and Eighty one

Present. Col^{o} Saml Smith, President

Capt^{ns}: Nich^{s} Moore, John McLellan, George Hunter, Richard Ridgely.

Lieut^{s}: Thomas Russell, George Welsh, Thomas Dewett, William Jacob, Danl Bowley, William Clemm.

Ensigns: James Calhoun, David Evans.

The court being set & Regularly sworn. Captain John Deaver appeared charged first for not repairing to the Alarm Post with his Company on the 22d Instant when not only the Alarm was given but when he was Ordered thereto by Mr Hamilton. Second for being drunk when on duty—to which charges Captain Deaver pleads not Guilty. Whereupon John Garner Hambleton being present is now here sworn—And thereupon deposes and says—that on Sunday the 22d Instant he repaired to the place of Alarm and discovered the officers of the different companies of the Baltimore Town Battalion there Except Captain Deaver upon which he went to Captain Deaver and askt him why he did not Attend with his Company at the Alarm post Captain Deaver replied he did not know where the Alarm post was upon which this deponant told him it was at the Grand or Usual place of Prerade—he again replied he did not know it upon which Mr Hamilton told him there was an Order for it—when Captain Deaver said he had seen none. Upon which this deponent told him he knew there was one and thought it was in the Orderlly Book—where he might see it if he woud look. Captain Deaver then said he had the Order there was no such instructions. Upon which this deponant told Captain Deaver if he had not known it before he knew it then. Captain Deaver then said he had drawn his men up at the Guard House thinking it the most proper place. Captain Deaver then askt this deponant what was to be done on the Grand prerade and was told to draw Arms & Amunition for his men—this deponent being Askt if he heard Colonel Smith Give Orders that in case of Alarm that the place of prerade above mentioned shoud be the place for the Officers and men of the Baltimore Town Battalion to Assemble upon which this deponant says he did hear Colonel Smith give such Orders—the deponent being Askt by Captain Deaver at what time the Orders was given by Colonel Smith this deponant saith that it was on the ninth day of this Instant on prerade Captain Deaver was present on the prerade that Day but does not recollect or know whether Captain Deaver was present at the time of the Order. Was Captain Deaver discharged on that day by Colonel Smiths Order—this deponent on the above Question says that when the line was discharged by Colonel Smith on the 9th Instant Captain Deaver was not there nor did not Join it that day to his knowledge—this deponant being askt if Captain Deaver was the Officer of the Guard on the 22d instant—says that Captain Deaver was Ordered on the 20th Instant to relieve Guard and that his Company furnisht the Guard until the 22d Instant this deponant being Askt if Captain Deaver was on the Grand Prerade on the 22d Instant with his Company—says not Captain Deaver Confesses that he knew any Orders Given by Mr Hamilton was regular—this deponant being Askt if Captain Deaver was drunk on the 22d when he gave him orders so as to render him incapable of doing his duty as an Officer—says he thinks he might be something intoxi-

April 24 [Indorsed "Cashiered 26 Apl 1781"]

April 24 [Indorsed "Cashiered 26 Ap^l 1781"]

cated at the time—but seemed sensible and fit for duty—this deponant being askt if since Captain Deaver has been on actual duty if he has seen him drunk or unfit for duty by drink—says that for the 20th to the 23^d^ between the 20th & 23rd Instant he thinks he see Capt Deaver so much intoxicated as to render him unfit for duty.

Joseph Lemane being sworn deposeth and saith that he was a Sergeant of the Guard when Captain Deaver's company was on duty on the 21st Instant, and was told by Captain Deaver that when he Captain Deaver was in he had the Command and when he the Captain was not there he the deponent had the Command. And that he received all Orders from the Captain when on that duty—that Captain Deaver he apprehends on that duty was intoxicated with drinking but does not know whether he was so much intoxicated as to render him unfit for duty as an Officer—this deponent further saith—that on the night of the 21st Instant between the hours of eight and nine o'Clock—Captain Galbraith Mr Kennedy and Captain Deaver came into the Guard House Groggy and Captain Deaver furnisht Galbraith & Kennedy with a Guard to see them safe home.

Isaac Sitler being sworn depose and Saith that on friday night the 20th Instant he was on Guard when Captain Deaver had the Command. And that Captain Deaver was intoxicated with liquor—that at another time the Company was Ordered out to meet at nine O'clock in the morning and was kept by Captn Deaver till three o'Clock in the Afternoon during which time the Captain was drinking with William Rusk one of the privates and that he was obliged to pledge his coat to pay for the liquor this deponent being askt if that was the day they drew their rations—says it was—Upon being ask't If he apprehended Captain Deavers drinking at the time he was on duty rendered himself fit for duty then at any other time says he thinks it did not for that in his opinion at no time he was fit for duty

Francis Marble being sworn deposeth and saith that on Friday the 20th Instant was a Guard and that Abraham Sitler was also on Guard both privates in Captain Deavers Company—this deponent being askt by Captain Deaver if during the course of that day or night he saw him Drunk—but says he thinks not.

This deponant being askt if he at any other time when Captn Deaver was on actual duty see him so drunk as to render him unfit for duty—says he thinks he never did. This deponant being askt by Capt Deaver if at the time of their drawing their rations he Captain Deaver was drunk says that he does not know he see Captain Deaver & William Rusk laying down by a Woman with a pale of liquor—this deponant being Ask't that if on the night of his being on duty with Captain Deaver he and Captain Deaver played cards and for what they did play says they did play cards for a bottle of Rum or Brandy but they coud not get it.

Murdock Kennedy being sworn—And asked by Captain Deaver if he has attended his Company in the Station of a Lieutenant for sometime past—says he did—being also asked if he was present at the time of their drawing rations and whether he Captain Deaver was drunk or unfit for duty—says he was present and Captain Deaver was not drunk—this deponant being asked if he see Captain Deaver at any time during the last tour of duty drunk or unfit for duty says he did not.

April 24 [Indorsed "Cashiered 26 Ap^l 1781"]

This deponant being Askt if he and Captain Galbraith came into the Guard House with Captn Deaver during Captain Deavers last tour of Duty between eight and nine o'Clock at night—says they did—but does not recollect that they had been drinking together previous to their coming to the Guard House.

Thomas Constable being sworn deposeth and saith that he mounted Guard on Sunday the 22^d Instant—that during the time of his Guard he understood Captain Deaver had Orders to Prerade with his Company at the Grand Prerade there being an Alarm but Captain Deaver drew up his Company only at the Guard House door at the same time saying that as he was on Guard he thought that the most proper place—and sent out his Corporals with orders to give notice to his Company then not on duty prerade at that place—this deponant being askt where he understood the Grand prerade to be says he understood it to be on the hill where the Companys usually prerade—this deponant further saith that Captain Deaver Examined their Arms on that day and provided his men with flints. And that he does not think Captain Deaver was drunk on that day or during.

John McLellan being sworn and Asked by Capt Deaver if at the time of his relieving Captain Deaver from his Guard he apprehended he was drunk as to render him unfit for duty says he cannot tell whether he was so drunk as to render him unfit for duty or not—but thinks he was intoxicated with liquor.

John Erman being sworn at the request of Captain Deaver and Deposeth & saith that on Saturday the 21st Instant he was on Guard with Captain Deaver—that during that night William Galbraith—Murdock Kennedy and Captain Deaver came into the Guard House—that he went with Captain Deaver to see Captain Galbraith safe home. And that Captain Deaver—Galbraith and Kennedy were all intoxicated with liquor. And that in Case he Captain Deaver had been well Qualified in every other Respect—he that night from drinking wou'd have been disqualified from taking any command.

On hearing the Court are Unanimously of opinion that Captain Deaver is Guilty of a Breach of the 4th & 5th Articles of the 13th Section of the Articles of War. And that he be cashiered for it according to the 5th Article

Sam Smith Pres^t

April 25 [And. Buchanan, Balt County, to His Excell^{y} Thos Sim Lee Esqr]

The inclosed letter from the Inhabitants of Balt Town which I take the liberty to lay before you, Contains a request for a Certain Governmental support to enable them to Compleat a Galley they are fitting out at a great expence, and which I understand is to be applied on a very general scale for the defence of the State.

Under these Circumstances I cannot help giveing their Application my full Consent—and beg leave to recommend it to your Consideration. We are all so exposed that I wish very sincerely the fines may enable them to finish their undertakings. It would be well not only for this Town but for a great part of our exposed Coast—the Inhabitants have Contributed very liberally but without some such support as they have asked I suspect their undertakings must fail

April 25 [To Brigadier Genl Buchanan]

Baltimore 25th April 1781

The inhabitants of Baltimore foreseeing that it will exceed their abilities to complete the galley which they have undertaken to fit out for the Bay service, and apprehensive that it must be given up, unless immediate succour can be drawn from some other source than individual contributions, take the liberty to request your interposition with the Governor and council, that the fines levied on the Town Militia, from time to time, may be appropriated to this purpose.

The galley has been pushed forward with so much dispatch, that we are promised she can be ready for service in less than two weeks. We are fully persuaded, reasoning upon the extensive advantages to be derived from her, in the protection of a great extent of coast property, and by keeping up the usual communication between the opposite shores, that Government will not hesitate a moment to indulge our request; especially, if it be considered, that it is only giving a permission to defend a considerable part of the community, by money drawn wholly from ourselves. Even on a principle of partial protection, it might be asked with propriety, and granted without injustice. But when the application of the galley is to be general, we would imagine the Governor and Council the last persons in the world to assign reasons for its refusal.

Confiding in your willingness to promote the public good, and in the wisdom of our administration, always employed to obviate the sufferings of the people, we do not doubt, but we will be enabled to finish a plan projected upon motives that every citizen must approve.

With the greatest respect we have the honor to be in behalf of the inhabitants of Baltimore April 25

Sir

Your ob^{t} & h^{ble} serv^{ts}

Ja^{s} Calhoun,	Alex^{r} Donaldson,	William Neill,
Hugh Young,	W. Smith,	Her^{s} Courtenay,
Richard Curson,	James McHenry,	Thos Russell,
Robt Gilmor,	John McLure,	David Stewart,
Jno Dorsey,	Dan. Bowly,	John Gordon,
Jos Donaldson,	Jon^{n} Hudson,	T. Yates.

Brigadier Genl Buchanan

[Jas. Calhoun, Baltimore, to the Governor and Council.] April 25

Since the Militia hath been called out the demand for Provisions at this Post is from 5 to 700 Rations ꝑ day which is more of the Meat kind than I can possibly procure at this place without giving a very extravagant price for it, and many of the Men who are on duty depended on their dayly labour for their subsistance therefore if they cannot be supply'd with Rations it will be impossible to keep them together which induces me to trouble your Honble Board on this Subject & must request you will please give me directions in what manner to obtain supplies of the Meat kind.

[John Deaver, Balt., to Gov. Lee.] April 25

May it please your Excellency. I Hope a Recent Transaction may Be Look^{d} upon as an Appoligy for my Laying before your Excellency the following Narrative.

I was some years agoe appointed by the men who form^{d} A Company of Militia under William Galbraith Capt in the 39th Battalion of Maryland Militia as their Ensign & continued as such untill by Deaths & Resignations I was appointed and Commissi^{d} as Capt of the Said Company—and Remain^{d} in that Station Hitherto, and have not had since About the Middle of Last Summer one Subbaltern to Assist me in Conducting them notwithstanding which, I have with much Fatiegue Kept the men Together which is a full and Good Company and have on all Occasions Manifested my Zeal in Support of the Independence of America in Training the men, and Turning out on Every Occasion, Mounting Guard &^{ca} I was Last thursday ordered to Relieve the main Guard in Baltimore Town consisting of one officer, one Serj^{t} one Corp^{l} and 20 privates which I did accordingly on fryday and on the same day was committed to my Charge a prisoner Charg^{d} with a Crime of a Capital nature—and Continued myself on Guard three Days & nights Successively having no Subbaltern to Releive me on that Tour of duty

April 25 On Monday Morning I was Releived by another Company and After dismissing my Guard and the Remainder of my Company untill 4 o'clock P. M then to meet Arm^{d} and accouter^{d} and attend for further Orders. I was put under arrest for the following Charges—first for not Repairing with my Company when not only the alarm was Given but when I was Ordered thereto by Mr Hamilton—The Second Charge for being Drunk while on Duty.

To the first Charge I Plead that Being officer of the Main Guard and having a Prisoner in Custody Charg^{d} with a Capital Crime, and having no Subaltirn to assist or Relieve me, I thought it inconsistent with my duty to Leave my Post. But I Immediately Assembled the whole of my Company off Guard and had them Drawn up Arm^{d} and Accoutered at the End of the Guard House & Kept them there under Arms untill the Troops which form^{d} the Line at the Alam post were discharg^{d} when I dismiss^{d} those of my Company not on Guard untill they should be Called on Again.

The Second Charge I utterly Deny having not taken any more Liquor of any Kind than was necessary for the Support of my Constitution on a Hard Tour of Duty—but it may well be suppos^{d} that want of Rest and being Fateigued might alter my Phisiognomy.

April 25
Red Book
No. 30
Letter 105

[H. Hollingsworth, Head of Elk, to His Excellency the Governor in Council.]

And please your Excell^{cy} & Honours Your favour of the 20th I received at Talbot Court House and that of the 10th with the order here on my return at Talbot I met with Col^{o} Blain with whom I confered according to your order, am sorry it was not in my power to do more for him in the way of provisions, there being very little collected, and no returns made me by the Commissarys Except Mr Williams, Blake & Voorhees, Mr Williams provisions are all thats collected consumed by the Marqueses Troops, Mr Vooreheeses claimed by the Lieut of Kent for the recruits and Malitia, Mr Blakes salt provisions gone over to your Honours, the Flour and part the wheat I had ordered on board two Shallops in Corsica Creek to go to the Head of Elk (waggons not being to be had) but the Enemies Vessels coming up the Bay has induced me to take Mr Blakes opinion and order it up Chester River to the Head, to be there stored or sent to Col^{o} Blains order in the Delaware, this I was obliged to do as it was not possible to get waggons to remove it by Land, those in that neighbourhood being sent to Philadelphia for Arms and Amunition, could get two only to remove the Flour from Mr Hemsleys Mill to the Vessels at Corsica, have now sent down Ten from the Head of Chester to assist to remove the Flour, and then to be at the order of the Honourable Council of this Shore, who I have requested the commissarys to make their Returns to, (and to hasten their collections) the waggons that are now going down with the Arms and

Amunition I have recommended to council also to be sent to such of the lower Commissarys as make their first returns to assist up with any provisions they may have on hand, and am now setting out to collect a Brigade of waggons in this neighbourhood to remove the provisions from the Head of Chester as it may arive there, to such places as Col° Blain may appoint, he agreeing with your Honours of the Head of Chester being the properest place for the first deposit, I have therefore appointed Mr Abram Faulkner to receive, take charge of and deliv^r the State provisions at that place, and have been thus particular to convince you that though little is done, there has been nothing wanting on my part; (in my power) as soon as a Brigade is collected, by which time I am in hopes some returns will be made me, I shall set out again to the lower Countys (if necessary) to execute your Orders; in my last tour was informed of a quantity of what about two thousand Bushels in a Mill the property of Doctor Slyter Bouchell, near the Head of Chester about four or five Miles from the Line, the wheat is said to be the property of Mr John Acord a residenter of Wilmington, whither this wheat is intended to go, out of the State or not is uncertain, but tis a pity our Army should want Flour while there is such a quantity of wheat laying, (providing Mr Acord could be paid for it, there is about twelve hundred Bushels of Corn in Store Just by the Mill (I see the wheat and it is very good) I have only to add that Enemys Shipping six in number are between Pooles Island and Turkey point (as I am informed)

April 25
Red Book
No. 30
Letter 105

[Sam. Smith, Balt. to Gov. Lee.]

April 25
Red Book
No. 27
Letter 73

At Sun Set yesterday one Ship of 16 or 18 Guns & 2 Brigs lay on our River Channell at 3 Mi from North Point our Barges awes theirs & prevents their Landing the other 2 ships are off Pooles Island. Yesterday some Militia from the N. side of Patapsco Were arrv'd & I Have not a Doubt will prevent any Deprivations there, all the Stock & Goods of Value is remov'd from thence. Our Militia begin to be formidable should these Vessells Cut off our Communication long the Distresses of our poor will be very great. Our Galley is nearly fit for service. She only Stops for want of Money the Town have done their utmost. I Have not gone to Market for these last 3 Market Days for want of Money. It is not to be had. Fines have been laid & more will be laid on persons refusing to turn out on actual Service, these fines in fact belong to the Town, for they are levied no where Else. I Have been Spoke to by allmost all the principal Inhabitants, I Have been applied to by the Committee to solicit that these fines Collected from & Levied on the Inhabitants of the Town be applied to the Defence of the Town, the request I think just & therefore I make it to your Excell^y not doubting that you will think the request reasonable, was the Galley properly fitted it would not be necessary to keep up so respectable a Militia, & she

April 25 would effectually prevent these Vessells from Blocking our River,
Red Book No. 27 I flatter myself to receive an order on Gen. Buchanan for all such
Letter 73 fines, Imm^{y} Collected from the Lower Batt^{n} in favor of thet Committee for the Town Defence.

Yesterday a Genl Court Martial Sat for the Trial of Capt. John Deaver. His Men have beg'd for other officers, his general Drunken Character need not be expatiated on. I flatter myself the Determination will be approv'd & Beg that Commissions may be sent for officers to that Company as follows. He has never had any subathrm since I Commanded the Batt. I am Inform'd they are all dead. James Toole Captain, Samuel Sadle 1 Lieut, William Dennis 2 Lieut.

An Ensign I Have not determin'd on. I again beg a Commission as Second Lieut. for Jacob Brown in Capt Dickenson's Com^{y} Stephen Shelmerden having resign'd, I beg a Commission for George Lux in his Stead. Mr Poe will bring the Commission which I do assure your Excell^{y} are much wanted

The Immediate want of Commission has obligd me to send the proceedings before I could furnish Capt Deaver with a Copy. I shall be obligd for a Copy.

April 26 [Joseph Ford, Leonard Town, St. Marys County to Governor Lee]

Your Excellencies favor of the 21st Ins^{t} enclosing an order on the Collector of the Tax for Two Hundred Pounds I Received. I shewed it to him, and he informed me he had not Received one Shilling of the Tax in money more than he had Remitted, nor did he expect Shortly to Receive any, If Two Hundred Pounds could be conveniently spared I should be glad and sent by the Bearer Mr Robert Greenwell

April 26 [Joseph Wilkinson Calvert County to His Excellency Thomas Sim Lee Esqr] (favor Capt Cleland)

I receiv'd yours of the 24th Ins^{t} directing me to apprehend a certain Joshua Dorsey late of Baltimore Town, which I have accordingly done, and make no doubt of his being safely deliver'd to you by the Bearer Capt Thomas Cleland.

April 27 [J. Taylor, to Col^{o} Richard Barnes, with Seven Prisoners under Guard of Serjeant Daffin & others]

The Capts. Folgier and Cole belonging to Baltemore who are just arrived from the West India's, on their Passage up the Bay met with a New York Privateer Schooner & a Sloop her Prize, a little below Ceder Point, which they Captured with very little opposition, Seven of the Prisoners were put on board the above mentioned Sloop, having no guard over them, they made their escape about ten oClock last night. Were this day taken up by Mr Belwood,

Jarboe & others who I have ordered to Carry them to you to be disposed off as you think Proper. April 27

The Chaps had with them a Pretty deal of very good wearing Apparel, such as shirts, Breeches, Waiscoats &c Summer Ware, and which they say partly belonged to the Marques La Fayette, which I imagine is truth, they (the Privateer) took Middleton's Boat in which the Marques's baggage was shiped. I have taken the Liberty of telling those who took them to leave them a Shipt, & divide the rest amongst them, as an incouragement, which in future will be to our Advantage their being a great many Strolers who ought to be detected & who the Common People are to apt to let pass unnoticed. Should be glad the Comm^sry^ of Purch^s^ could be down as I expect to have some of the Militia at the Place of Rendez. to-morrow.

[Sam. Huntington, President, Philadelphia, to The Honorable Matthew Tilghman Esq.] April 27 Red Book No. 8 Letter 31

Your Favour of the 21st Instant I have had the Honor to communicate to the United States in Congress Assembled. I am directed to inform you that it was by no Means their Intention in the Recommendation therein referred to, to hold up your Situation as desperate, much less to preclude the Idea of Resistance. The Intelligence they had received led them to apprehend that it was in Contemplation with the Enemy to take Post at New Castle, for the Purpose of a grand Forage on the Peninsula between Delaware & Chesapeake Bays.

The Attention due to the general Interest required that immediate & effectual Precautions should be taken to disappoint such an Expedition of its object. With this View it was recommended to remove from the Reach of the Enemy all Provisions & Forage which would not be necessary for the Consumption of the Inhabitants, a Precaution pointed out by the very Nature of the Case, which was the more eligible as it tended to prevent the Invasion as well as to render it abortive, and which had been adopted in Similar Instances without objection or Complaint.

The Intelligence since received by Congress of the Designs of the Enemy has been so far from rendering the first Plan inexpedient or unnecessary, that it has determined them to give it greater Promptitude & Efficacy by their Resolution of the 23^d^ Instant, of which a Copy is enclosed. The Extent & strictness of its Execution, as well as of the preceding Act, must no Doubt be governed by Circumstances, and by the Discretion of the Executives & the Board of War. Whatever Respect may be paid to these Recommendations, or whatever may be the Event, Congress will have done their Duty.

Your Determination to exert yourselves to the utmost for your Defence, and your Confidence in the Bravery & Affection of your Citizens afford Congress the highest Satisfaction, and they perswade

April 27 Red Book No. 8 Letter 31 themselves that a Reconsideration of the Steps taken for removing from the Reach of Invaders, the superfluous Provision & Forage, will convince you that they can have no possible Tendency to discourage so laudable a Spirit, or to impede the Effects which may be expected from it

April 27 [Joseph Wilkinson, Calv^{t} County, to Gov. Lee.]

Capt. Skinner will deliver you Nineteen prisoners, Taken off the mouth Patuxent by Capt Folger of the Schooner Antilope Capt. Folger gave me a memorandum of his proceedings since he came in the Bay which Capt. Skinner will deliver your Excellency

April 28 [John Moale to Gov. Lee.]

An Officer belonging to the Detachm^{t} Commanded by Major General the Marquis de la Fiat, deliver'd Jesse Dungan & Jonathan Paul (whom the Marquis, had apprehended on Suspicion of their haveing been Aiding & Assisting, John Paul & Walter Picket, in Endeavouring to Supply the Subjects of the King of Great Britain with Flour) to me who I have after taking the Inclosed Examination, & being Promised by the Officers to have further Testimoney sent from the Detachm^{t} Commited to Baltimore County Goal—the Evidence I Expected not being sent & that I had (in my Opinion) not being sufficient to Convict them, I was inclined Either to Discharge, or Admit them to Bail—but being inform'd this day by Mr Lindinberger that he had forwarded some depositions respecting these men to you, I declined doing so untill I could obtain your Excellencys direction in respect to this matter, will beg you'l give me as soon as possible

Baltimore County ss. The Examination of Wm Kelley a Soldier in the Detachment Commanded by Major Gen. the Marquis de la Fiat, taken before me the Subscriber one of the Justices of the County aforesaid April 20th 1781.

This Examinant saith that Walter Picket, deceased, told him, that Jonathan Paul & Jesse Dungan, was to Aid & Assist him the said Picket & John Paul in Carrying Flour on Board the Brig Nesbett & other Vessells which the said Picket supposed to belong to the King of Great Britain—& Further saith not

his
William X Kelley
Mark

April 29 The above Examination taken & Subscribed before John Moale

[Geo. Dashiel, Som^{t} Cot^{y} to The Honble Matthew Tilghman Presid^{t} of the Special Council, Talbot Court House]

Yesterday evening Mr Master came up Wicomico in the Flagg which Mr Lyon Alledges he belongs to, and informd me that Mr Lyon

acted as mate to him, and says that he inform'd him that he applied April 29
to the Governor and has his Verbal permission to lieve the State if he Chose, I have inclosed a letter from Capt Handy which will inform you the reason of Mr Master not bringing the Vessel up Wiccomico river sooner than he did, also a copy of a permit from His Excellency Governor Lee to take on board Provision for the ships use, Mr Master has produced a commission for the Flagg from His Excellency John Maxwell Governor of the Bahema Islands, with a list of the names of Thirty three prisoners Annexed thereto, And A receipt for the Prisoners from Daniel Hughs D. C. of Prisoners in Baltimore as I have sent Mr Lyon and two of the hands to you I have ordered the sloop up the river until I receive your Instructions how to act. If your Honours should be of opinion that Mr Master is to proceed on his Voige, I request the fav^{r} of you to inform me wheather he may be permited to purchase a Supply of Provision. As Capt Handy informs me that the Privatear which took his vessel has taken all his tea Coffee & Sugar, with a Considerable Q^{ty} of his flour & Salt Provision. The barges continue to make depredations on the rivers in this county an Attempt was made by one to come up Menokin river last night, but the spirited behaviour of a detachment of Militia at the mouth of the river prevented her, and after exchanging several Shot obliged her to retire. I have now upward of a hundred men on Duty. The company ordered from Worcester I am inform'd by the Lieu^{t} will March tomorrow for this County. It is the opinion of the officers that we shall be under absolute necessity of keeping 160 men on Duty for the defence of the County, and that number will only enable us to post small detachments on our rivers, we have a coast of fifty Miles in extent to guard in which there is seven rivers, and as we have at Present no arm'd Vessels to defend us, and no other protection but a land force I am of opinion that number of men may be employ'd to Great advantage in the County and that from a Smaller number we could not derive that Protection which your Honours would wish us to have, It is certain that keeping a number of men on duty will be attended with Great expence and inconvenience but it is evident without a sufficient force we shall in general be Plundered, and suffer every species of voilence insolence & abuse. And I am of opinion that unless a sufficient force is continued to prevent their depredations on the inhabitants of this County, that many of the disaffected will Join them from motives similar to those which first induced them to take up arms against us. We have on one of the rivers a very advantageous post for a detachment but no house contiguous to it in which they can be quartered, as the season of the year does not require a warm house I request the fav^{r} of your honours to permit me to build barracks of planks for their reception at the public expence, this can be done by the people on duty without nails or any other expence but the planks and a small Quantity will

April 29 be sufficient. I have inclosed you Lieu^{t} Col^{o} Waterses Comm^{s} with a resignation on it, we have no other field officer to the battalion but a maj^{r} who earnestly requests with myself that Mr John Done may be appointed to the Command of it. Mr Done formerly commanded A battalion in Worcester County which was vacated by his removal and from his known integrity and Attachm^{t} to our Cause we have been induced to recommend him to the Command of the battalion and hope your honours will have it in your power to transmit me his Commission with the commissions for the Salisbury battalion agreeable to the recommendations which you have rec^{d} with a Lieu^{t} Col^{o} Commission for Maj. Esme Bayly of the Salisbury Battalion

[April] [Joseph Handy to Col^{o} George Dashiels, Lieutenant of the County].

On the 21 day of this Instant at the Request of Mr Lyons I went Down to huppers Straights in order to fetch the flag up Wiccomoco But when I came there I found Her in poseson of a british Privatier from New York cal^{d} the Jack in the Lantern Comanded by Capt Mangen who took me prisoner and Detained Me five Days in which time they Stript the flag of Sailes Rigen and provisions and one anchor and Cable and Mr. Lyons Cloths they Likewise tuck ought five or six tons of Balest which has put the flag so Mutch ought of trim that I Dont think Her fit for Sea on the twenty fifth of this Instant the aforesaid privatiers was taken by the Antilope Leter of Mark Commanded by Capt folger from Guardalupe bound to Baltimore but Hearing that The Enemies Shipt was up the bay they went up Patuxent River where they set me and the flag at Liberty.

Annapolis 5th December 1780

In Council

Permission is hereby given to Legh Masters Capt of the Sloop Experiment A Flag of Truce from Providence one of the Bahama Islands to Lade on board the Said Sloop for the use of the Exchanged Prisoners and Crew Belonging to the Said Sloop Ten Barrels of Bread & five Barrels of Flower and Ten Barrels of Salt Beaf or Pork.

True Copy Sign'd Thos S. Lee.

Baltimore, February 28, 1781.

Mr Masters having furnished the Prisoners with Six Hundred & fifty Six Pounds of Beef and Six Hundred and fifty six pounds of flower of his Provisions he is at Liberty to take the Like Quantity over & Above the Within.

A True Copy. Sign'd

Danl Hughs, D. C. of Prisoners

for the State of Maryland.

[Henry Lowes, Chatham to Geo. Dashiel Esq.] April 20

I was at Coll° Scotts this Evening when I mett with Cap. Lyons on his Return from your house Coll. Scott Inform'd you had a Lett^r from Leigh Mastus Esqr to me which he sent that you had Orderd Mr Mastus Sloop to be Brought up I shall now Agreable to the Dictates of Humanity, Inform you off all I Know Relative to Mr Mastus as his being brought up here wou'd be very Hurtfull to him—When Last at Balt. Mr Mastus Inform^d he should by Permission of the Govr Shortly come down Asked me in Comp^y where there were several Gent^n whether I coud furnish him with some Stock Cyder Brandy & Vegatables for his Voyage to which I Replied in the Afermitance. This is all I know ab^t the Matter, Coll Scott has Sent Cap Joe Handy who is now here to bring up the Sloop, if an Affidavit of mine to what I have said Above will Save Mr Mastus that Trouble I shall be Happy.

[L. Masters, Hooper's Streets, to Coll. Lowes] April 20

I yesterday set out to wait on you but from ye Sailors mistaking ye Directions we were obliged to return & having a great cold before & geting wet yesterday has made me so much out of order y^t I did not think it prudent to venture, wch I hope you'll excuse

Mr Lyon has been so good to wait on you for me. I have left wth Mr Clarke 9..15..0 & Mr Lyon will pay you ye remainder in Cash & you'll furnishing him with a Bill.

I shall be glad if youed Supply me with ye following 4 Sheep fat, 10 Gal^ns of Peach Brandy, 10 D° Vinegar, 1 Bar Herrings, Pease or Beans, 2 Bus^ls, Corn 4 Bar^ls, Carrots & Parsneps, Turneps 3 Bar^ls, Cyder ab^t 6 Bar^ls, Onions 1 Bus^l, Lumber 1000^ft

[Deposition of George Airs] April 24

Som^t Co^ty the 24th of Ap^l 1781. Came George Airs befor me the Subscriber one of the Justices of the Peace for the County afs^d and made Oath on the holy Evangelist of Almighty God that on Friday the 20th of Ap^l he hapned at Col° Scotts and Saw a Strange Boat Going up the River upon which Col° Scott Desired some of the persons present to Go out and hale her but she Got Two far up the River and while he this deponent Ware Looking at her they put on Shore about One hundred yard Above the Ware house with that Capt Jas. Bennett John Evans Samuel Handy and this deponent went to where they were and Desired them to Call at Col° Scotts upon which they did and Col° Scott demanded his papers and he Delivered him Two Letters the Contents I Know not Mr Lyon Told Col° Scott they Belonged to a flagg from Providence and was on there Return but had Purchased several Articles from Mr Lowes at Baltimore and

April 24 was Bound to his house but Lost his way and after Col° Scott Perus^d his papers he Orderd Mr Lyon to Leautenant Dashiell And further saith not.

Sworn before Gillis Polk

April 24 [Deposition of Samuel Handy]

Som^t ss the 24th of Ap^l 1781—Came Samuel Handy before me the Subscriber one of the Justices of the peace for the County—Afs^d and made Oath on the holy Evangels of Almighty god that on Friday the 20th of Ap^l af^d Saml Handy happned at Col° Scotts with Several Others, and saw a strange Boat Going up the River Col° Scott desired some of the Persons present to Go and hale her but she Got Two far up the River, and while we ware all Looking at her she put On Shore about One hundred yards above the whare house Upon which Capt Ja^s Bennett Geo. Airs John Evans and this Deponent went to where she was and Capt Bennett Ast. where they ware from Mr Lyon Replide from Baltimore, he ast^d where his Vessel Lay, Mr Lyon answerd at Hupers Straits he was Ast^d where he was Bound to he answered to Mr Lowes but he had Over shot his Port with that Capt. Bennett Desired him to Call at Coll. Scotts upon which he did with that Col° Scott demanded his papers and he Deliverd Two Letters after Col° Scott Red them he Orderd Mr Lyon Before Lieutenant Dashiell upon which he this deponent Proceeded with him before the Lieutenant and he told the Lieutenant he belong^d to a flag from Providence and was upon his Return Back again and Came up to Get Sundry Articles that was mentiond in a Letter to Mr Lowes—and further saith not. Sworn before Gillis Polk

April 29
Red Book
No. 8
Letter 27

[Sam. Huntington, President, Philadelphia, to Gov. Lee.]

Your Excellency will receive enclosed a Resolve of Congress of the 20th Instant recommending to the several States therein named to make good the Depreciation of the monthly Pay to the Officers & Soldiers belonging to Col. Moses Hazens Regiment, that are considered as Part of those States Quotas, in the same Manner they have made good the Depreciation to the Officers & Soldiers in the Battalions belonging to the Line of those States respectively.

April 30
Red Book
No. 30
Letter 107

[Geo. P. Keeports, Baltimore, to Gov. Lee.]

May It Please Your Excellency Your Letter of the 27th Inst (with advice of my Appointment to the Command of a Fort on Patuxent River) I Just Received being Engaged Receiving the Arms and Ammunition from the Militia on Saturday Last; I Could not Attend the Post Office which Prevented me from Answering Sooner

I Beg the Liberty of Returning you my Sincerest Thanks for the Honour you Were Pleased to Confer on me in the Appointment;

But my Inability to the Undertaking and the Present Engagement in the Service Render it out of my Power to Accept of your kind and Honourable Appointment, as I am well Convinced of my Inability and Think it Impossible for me to Render a Greater Service to my Country in any other Station Then the one I have the Honour of Holding at Present under your Excellencys Direction April 30 Red Book No. 30 Letter 107

[James Lloyd, Chester Town to The Honorable, The Council for the Eastern Shore of Maryland] (By Favor of Mr. B. Tilghman) April 30

We have this moment intelligence of a number of Vessels being up above E. Neck Island The letter containing the account is defaced by the rain so that we can learn nothing of their number. The servant is of opinion they are the same that were up before. Your Honor may depend on having all the Information worthy of your attention which it is in my power to communicate. General Cadwalader and myself are just going off to take a view of them. He has a Letter by the last post from Col° Nixon which mentions that Congress are informed by Genl Washington that a large embarkation is now on foot at New York, Genl Clinton to command

The Militia of this County appear to be spirited. If the Gentlemen will set them a good example I believe they will follow it with Alacrity

[Capt. John Penny, British Prisoner, to His Excellency Thom^s Sim Lee, Esq.] April 30

Please your Excellency I hope you will pardon the Liberty I have taken in sending these few lines, as I understand there Is one Capt Willm Middleton From this place has met with the same Misfortune as my self, and By his Brother I understand he Is at New Yourk, I humbley Intreat the Request of your Excellency To grant me a Parole to proceed to New Yourk And your Excellency may Rely on my Strictest Honour at my Arrival In New Yourk that Capt Willm Middleton will be Immediately Exchanged in my place and I will give my word and Honour to Supply him with as much Cash as Is Necessary to Bring him home, In your Excellency's granting this Request Will Ever be Esteemd as a Particular favour granted to your Most Obedient Humble Servt

[Parole to Capt John Penny from the Governor and Council] [May] Draft

I John Penny Mariner late Commander of the Brigantine Endeavour do acknowledge myself a Prisoner of War to the State of Maryland & do solemnly promise & engage upon my Honour that I will not directly or indirectly say or do any thing that may prejudice or tend to the Prejudice of the United States of America, or either of them & I do further promise and engage in the most solemn

[May] Draft Manner that I will upon my arrival in New York use every Endeavour to effect an Exchange of William Middleton late Commander of the Boat Dolphin that belonged to the State of Maryland, in my Place & stead and in Case such Exchange cannot be accomplished I will immediately return to Annapolis in said State of Maryland myself as a Prisoner of War.

April 30 Red Book No. 7 Letter 204 [Willm Grayson, War Office, to His Excellency the Governor]

In a letter from Baron Steuben of the 21st Instant the Board are informed that he is in great want of powder and lead for the use of the troops under his command; The Board will be glad to know whether it is in your power to give him any assistance as soon as possible. Should you be capable of complying with our request, you will be pleased to order it on, and do us the honor of informing us of the quantity, which will be replaced, as soon as the situation of the public magazines will admit of it

[April] [Wm. Bordley, to His Excellcy Thos. Sim Lee]
(pr Charles Hackett)

I have receiv'd the articles mention'd in your Letter by Capt Tildon except the cannon which I expect over from Baltimore in a few days, also am much obliged by the kind attention given to our requisition & if not inconvenient I hope your Excellency will cause the Gun locks, to be sent by the Bearer, we have been very successful in recruiting already I have passed thirty one recruits almost all of whom are extremely good, we have only eight more to get & one week to get them in, should we compleat our number within three or four days I presume a Draft may be dispensed with

April [John Deaver, Capt. in the 39 Battalion of Maryland Militia, to Gov Lee.]

May it Please Your Excelency At this Alarming Crisis in the Absence of my Coll I am Induced to Lay before you the State of the Company I have the Honor of Commanding & I hope you will Excuse the freedom I take in so doing. I have not one Subalton Death & Resignations have deprived me of them;

The State of my Compy was in Writting given to Coll Saml Smith some months past with a Recomendation of such who I thought should be Commissioned & who were willing to Except of the Trust that might be Reposed in them.

As no Commissions for the Subaltons has been sent to me I can Only say that altho, I have a full Company it is out of my power to Collect them together without Officers to Assist me, I am well Convinced they are good & Trew, And do pray your Excellency to send Commissions as to you shall seem meet, and do Assure you that when

the Company if fully Officer[d] it will appeare not only on paper, but On the Field. April

The Subaltons Recomended are John Deaver Jun[r] lately Lieu[t] of the 3[d] Maryland Reg[t] Resign[d] 1 Lieut, Murdoch Kennedy 2 D°

N. B. If the Company is not Officer'd as Recommended they will dissolve.

[Rich[d] Barnes, Leon[d] Town to His Excellency Tho[s] Sim Lee, Esq[r]] April

As many of the Militia as we can Arm are now on duty in the different parts of the Co[ty] and as this will be the case the greatest part of the summer or as long as the Enemy are in the Bay I am fully satisfied that if some plan is not fel on to keep a select number of men constantly together for the year they will not answer the intended purpose of defending the Co[ty] and will in a great measure prevent them making a support for their Familys. For from the constant changing and the trouble of getting men to relieve those that have been on duty, the whole affair must be conducted in a very, confused and purplexed manner, without the mens being qualified in their duty, and their not having that confidence in each other that men have by continuing a time together. And will have a very bad tendency I am apprehensive, in harrassing the People more than their feelings can well bear. Great difficultys we shall in all probability have to encounter at any rate, but the time now approaches that makes it highly necessary for us to conduct our affairs with the greatest propriety. I have directed Cap[n] Ford to endeavour to purchase some Brandy for the use of the Militia on duty as it can't well be expected that Men can do duty without it. I am informed that two Ships came into Potomack yesterday with several sloops & Barges. Those that Cap[n] Thomas will inform you of are now up Potomack some where above this. I shuld be glad to have your sentitment on the above.

[H. Hollingsworth, Head of Elk, to His Excellency, Thomas Sim Lee Esqr., in Council.] May 1 Red Book No. 30 Letter 97

And please Your Excellency & Honours. I was yesterday called on by M[r] John Acord the Gentleman who owns the wheat mentioned in my last who assures me the Wheat and Corn was taken in chiefly in the sale of goods he having kept a store at the Head of Chester for sometime past and that a strict observance of the Law is the cause of such a quantity being on hand, that he has not removed a Bushel since the late law was enacted, which I must acknowledge the large quantity on hand is a strong circumstance in favour of—

have received no returns yet from the county Commissarys have some Waggons below forwarding the stores, and should have had some ere now removing them from the Head of Chester but the weather has been so wet has discouraged it the Vessels has arrived

May 1 Red Book No. 30 Letter 97 safe at the Head of Chester from every River with the flour, shall be down in a few days and employ them on any other Service that they can be usefull in (if any) as the Head of the Bay is now clear of the Enemies Cruisers this day received eight good fat Bullocks of Mr McBryde Commissary for Summerset County which is the only provisions received here since my last returns, Colo Yeates complains loudly for want of Forage which I have ordered Mr Baruch Williams to purchase who says he has no money, and if he buys on Credit it will enhance the price, an order in his favour would be very usefull. I have wrote to the several County Commissarys to be particular in hastening their collections, forwarding their provisions, and meeting me with their Returns at your City at the Setting of the General Assembly.

May 1 [Ja Hutchings, Annapolis, to the Governor and Council.]

I attend your Board in obedience to your warrant arresting me for having gone on board the Enemie Ship and for obtaining two of my Negroes from the commanding officer without Your Excellys and the Councils Leave in writing I did not know that your Board alone was invested with the Power to grant Permission to the Citizens of this State to go on board the Enemies vessels, but from the convenience and the Practice heretofore I really thought either the Special Council for the Eastern Shore or the County Court or Lieutenant of any County could give Licence in their Discretion as the Special Council was not sitting I sent a Letter to the honble William Paca Esqr one of the Members soliciting the Favour of a Flag to go on board the Enemies Ship for the purpose of recovering my Slaves, but as Mr Paca was from Home my Letter was not received by Him; Application was afterwards made to the honble William Hemsley Esqr Lieutenant of Queen Anns County for Permission to go on board the Enemies Ship to Endeavour to recover my Slaves which he declined to give. By the advice of a Gentleman of the Law, I made application by a Friend to the Court of Queen Annes County for Leave to go on board the Enemies Ship to Endeavour to recover my Slaves the Judge of the Court informed the Gentleman by whom I applied that my Application was proper and regular, and that He wou'd bear Testimony of its being open and public to the Court while sitting. I beg Leave to assure your Excelly and the honble Council, that I meant no contempt of nor Inattention to your Authority; and that any Error I may have committed was altogether the Effect of Ignorance of the Law. Many Slaves have lately been recovered from on board the Enemies Ships as I have been informed, and that without a Flag from your Excelly and the honble Council. No particular Favour was shewn me by the giving up of my Slaves any Persons Slave had Liberty to go a Shore. Mr Kerrs Slave was permitted to return to His Master unsolicited by me upon my Honor I knew not that his slave was on board til I saw Him in the Canoe. It wou'd

have been unfeeling to have ordered Him out. My Effects and Provisions were sent out of the Enemies way upon their coming up and my Craft sent up to the Head of Chester River where one of them had been for many weeks. I wish to give the Governor and Council any further Satisfaction respecting my Conduct. I went on board in the Day Time and remained but a few Minutes and made no Secret of my design in going on board. If I have violated the Law it was from Ignorance alone. If I have given umbrage to your Excell^{y} or the hon^{ble} Council, I am sorry for it. May 1

[James Lloyd, Farley, Kent County to The Honorable the Council for the Eastern Shore of Maryland.] (Favor of Mr. Mat. Tilghman, Junr) May 1 [Indorsed "This and the letter of 30th Ap^{l} Ans'd 3^{d} May"]

As I am favored with a good opportunity to Talbot I do myself the pleasure to inform you that the Vessels which were seen yesterday morning from Eastern Neck are the property of Mr Yellott of Baltimore. They are schooners—two of them just arrived from the West Indies—the third a prize taken by them in this Bay. This is the report of one of Hodges's Skippers an intelligent negro man who says he conversed with them—that they told him all the Enemy's vessels were up James River and that they did not see a sail on their passage up the Bay. I have heard of the expedition to the Islands and hope it will be successful. This County has nearly made up its quota of Recruits and there are some from Q. Ann's, in Chester Town. The whole number fifty six and most of them very fine fellows. General Wayne with between 12 and 15000 of the Pennsylvania Line on their way to the Southward, is at York Town He waits there untill he can procure money for the Troops. I have nothing more to add than that with great Esteem

[Benj'n Griffith, Com., Baltimore, to Gov. Lee.] May 1

Inclos'd you have a Return of all the Provisions I have Receipted for up to the 30th April and the Diferent Mills and Places it is Stor'd in. And likewise the Quantity Diliver'd the Unighted States which I have Recruits for Pray send me five hundred pounds State Money to pay for the Cattle Purchased for the Marques by your Order

[Don'l Yeates, D. Q. M. Elk, to the Governor and Council.] May 1

I must inform you I have rec^{d} only, of the supply of forage you were pleased to order me at this Post, seventy Bush^{s} Indian Corn, not any Hay, I have applyed to Col^{o} Hollingsworth and Mr Williams but have no prospect of being Assisted, the deficulties thro' the want of these Articles is extreme I need not repeat them, I rest Assured of your disposition to enquire into the causes of your order not being complied with, and the circumstances being remedied as soon as is in your power, there is undoubtedly large Quantities of these Articles

May 1 in the hands of the people for sale, I am of oppinion Mr Voorhees of Kent could procure the Corn—the Barge shall be sent down, should before this, only on Acco^t of the Enemys Shiping, inclosed is a Copy of an Agreem^t I am entering into with express riders I conceive on as frugal a System as the business can be done on, I am in hopes this measure will meet the Approbation of Your Hon^l Board, from Several circumstances I have mett lately in the transaction of business it Appears to me necessary some regulation should be made by the Executive power of the State in the Passage of ferrys within this State, we are very dependant on the unreasonable Humour of the Keepers of many of the ferrys lately at Johnsons ferry I had a Public waggon detained a Considerable time untill Hard money was procured to pay the passing it,—delay is often given to Express riders

M. G. Green by Col° Carrington writes me very Pressing for a number of Waggons required from this and the Delaware State how far the State is to Comply I don't presume, but much distress is Occasion'd in the Southern Army for the want of Waggons to make the Supplies.

Memo: of an agreement between Donaldson Yeates D. Q. M. for the State of Maryland in behalf of the Public, on the one part, and Thomas Giles express rider for himself on the other part. Witnesseth that said Thomas Giles, agrees to keep at his own proper expence, two good and sufficient horses always ready for the business of Express riding, to do that business that is to ride from this Post to Harford Town, with all dispatches for the Southward, and to Mark Elliotts Tavern above Wilmington with all dispatches for the Northward and as it may happen that the Public business may not require a rider to be cont^d constantly at said Elliotts in this case Giles is to include the distance from there to Philad^a in his riding, to pay his own expences in riding. Ferriages and every other matter whatever any delay or neglect of Public Papers, if such should a Long time appear within his riding—he is to be chargeably with and agrees to give such attention to this business at all times, as to prevent cause of Complaint. For the above services & Expences being duly perform'd, Don^l Yeates agrees that the said Giles is to have Three hundred pounds in Specie ꝑ Year to be paid in that or other current money equivalent Quarterly, at such times as it may happen that the wind is too high for him to Cross the Susquehanah with his horse, he is to use all endeavour to cross himself & hire a horse to go on to Harford, in such case the hire of the horse is to be paid by the Public over and above the sum mentioned, his riding under this Contract, to Commence from this date. Witness our hands enterchangeably this 16th day of April 1781

N. B. Giles has Contracted Vanhorn has agree'd but not Signed his Contract as yet.

[Pat. Sim Smith, Calvert, to Gov. Lee.] (Pr Mr Bayfield) May 2 Red Book No. 27 Letter 74

The bearer hereof George Bayfeild will deliver two fatted Steers, that I have received since I sent up the last Twelve. I have no receipt for them but from John Crisall, to whom Mr Bayfield says he was directed to deliver them.

The salt meat provisions I have not yet Removed for the want of Barrells or small Casks & it has not been in my power to procure any. Could they possibly be procured at Annapolis, I could wish to have Ten or twelve brought down, with a few bushells of Salt to repack the meat tis now very fine & well secured in large Casks, but fear twill not keep so well as in Barrells, and these Casks are very unhandy, to remove.

I dont know that I shall be able to procure any more Beeff on the Hoof this spring. However should I receive an order for that purpose, twill induce me to execute it.

[Rich'd Dallam, Harford County, to Gov. Lee.] May 3

I Finish'd last evening draughting the Militia of this County And am sorry to inform Your Excellency that only 14 Classes of 37 have procured recruits and very few of them have yet received their Bounty the scacity of Cash with us is so great that unless it will please Your Excellency to give some further indulgence I shall be obliged to Issue Executions ag^t 9 men out of 10 the County through and from them I cannot hope to raise the money in any Short time. The Sheriff informs me he executed a number of persons for 20 ꝑC^t Tax attend'd often to sell their Effects but no one could purchase from all the executions put into his hands for 20 ꝑ C^t Tax I have not received a Shilling tho' I have reason to believe he has long ago received the greater part of the money as he is now in Annapolis. Your Excellency may have an opportunity of knowing the reason of his delay of payments why he should not pay the penalty the Law inflicts for not delivering to me the Cash. There are so many complaints of his misconduct in Office, that he deserves no favour, his Practice from Numberless informations is to charge his Commissions on Continental money debts in hard money, if I have grantd execution for 5£ continental he charges 10/ hard money which at an exchange of 120 for one makes the debt & fees 65£ Many of his receipts prove this practice I have one where he received 195£ for 23.12.0. if he proceeds to sell Effects the Costs are more then dubble as this practice is unwarrantable by any Law or Custom I give Your Excellency the information that his Conduct may be further enquired into, the facts can be well supported by the best of evidence I hope some Power exists to suspend him from the execution of his Office at least. The Conduct of our Sheriff makes it much more distressing to me to Issue such a Number of Executions & am well convinced every Advantage

May 3 will be taken & a Number of Good men & worthy Citizens must be ruin'd, therefore if any thing is possible to be done to prevent it I hope our Excellency will give me immediate directions.

I recec^{d} in the last month upwards of 3000 Bush^{ls} of wheat & more is still coming in the Enemy being on our coast Prevented many from delivering & we could not appoint a place where the inhabitants on the water could deliver their wheat what had been d^{o} I was oblige to remove I had Your Excellencys order to remove public Stores to places of absolute Securety it was out of my Power to procure Teems at that time to remove it to such a place, nor do I know how far this order intend'd I apprehend'd if I remove the flour &c. at such a distance from the Water that it w^{ld} be safe from a small party coming after it w^{ld} be complying therewith but If Your Excellency wishes the Stores to be secured I shall proceed immediately on notice to procure Houses on the N. Side deer Creek near to York County, for this Purpose I must be Authorised to impress teems. I shall stand in need of a Waggon or two all summer if Your Excellency thinks Proper I will purchase & fit up 2 teems, without them I see no way of doing my Business, the trouble & expence of impressing even the Teems I shall want with more then the first Cost of 2 teems to the State renders agreavance to the People for we have no Teems keept for the road in the County.

I flatter myself Your Excellency will excuse my so frequently giveing so much Trouble with long tedious Epistles

May 3 [Dan'l Hughes, Balt. to Gov. Lee.]

I wrote you last week that I intended to Washington County, and in case I did not hear from you that I should have the Prisoners here under the care of Major Smith, I have been longer detained then I expected but hope to get away in a few days. Capt. Folger of the Anteloop has Captured and brought in here, Capt Mathew Mangin, Lieu^{t} William Lewis, and Josiah Johnston Master, taken on board the Privateers, Jack in the Lanthorn, Lieut. John Chambers and Nicolas Burns, taken on board the Resolution. Capt. Mangin is desirous of a Parole, to endeavour to effect, the Exchange of himself and Crew, for an equal Number of the Subjects of this State, now in Captivity. There is Seventeen Seamen Prisoners of war in Goal besides, which if an Exchange is not expected shortly had best be moved to Frederick, for they are not secure here

May 4 [Rich'd Barnes, Len^{d} Town to Gov. Lee.]

I herewith send you under Guard, Three Prisoners, part of the same Crew that I sent to you, takin in a Canoe at Point Look out together with John Taloe, who was takin up in consequence of a paper signed Arthur Gage &c. which was found in the pocket of one

of the Prisoners sent to you, who acknowledged to me, that he was at May 4
the House of John Taylor, and got Provision from him, to carry with him, when he left his House, and that he wrote the inclosed paper. On hearing that Doc^{r} Robertson and Austin Milburn, were at Taylors, at the time the Prisoners were there, I have procured the inclosed deposition of Austin Milburn. Taylor is a man of infamous character, with a good deal of property, and has for a considerable time had a difference with Mr J. Aderton, and from the Officers below that I can most depend on, together with what Austin Milburn says, They shall esteem themselves very unsafe if Taylor is permitted to stay amongst them. I therefore flatter myself he will at least be kept confined. He has two Sons that go by water and I believe not well attached to our cause, I could wish they were removed. Captn John H. Abell informs me that on his ordering James Theobalds & Danl Dris to join the Company that we are raising they left the parts and that a Canoe of Theobalds Fathers (who live at Point lookout) was seen with two Men in it Standing to the Eastern Shore, Theobalds by many has been long suspected of being disaffected, and it is not doubted that he has gone to the Enemy, he took with him one of the Public Arms with a Bayonet & Cartouch box. You have inclosed a list of officers recommended by the Field officers of the lower Batt^{n} and as we are much in want of Officers, should be glad you would send the Commissions by the Bearer, or as soon as convenient. Many of the officers that have resigned did it as I have been informed on acco^{t} of their living near the Water, from which you will readily conclude they were not good for much, which was really the case. In short we have a number of very bad Officers and how we shall get clear of them I am at a loss to know. The expences of sending the Prisoners you will be kind enough to pay to the Bearer Mr John Wood

[Deposition of Austin Milburn, Saint Marys County, before Henry Reeder.] May 3

The deposition of Austin Milburn Being duly sworn on the holy Evangels of Almighty God Before me one of the Justices of the Peace for the County afs^{d} deposeth & sayeth that the Prisoner that acknowledged the Paper signed Arthur Gauge second Lieutenant Mr Doyal & Mr Mullin, and was in the following words " Mr James Adderton have a great deal of property of Negroes & Plate he lives in Saint Inegoes Creek near the Warehous whom is a great foe to Mr John Taylor living in Saint Marys County near the same place which have Behaved as a good friend to the Union flagg In distress which made their Escape from their Prisonment of & the Captured Jack of the Lanthorn " And this deponant further sayeth that he with Doct^{r} Robinson went to John Taylors Blue stone and found the aforesaid Arthur Gauge Mr Doyal & Mr Mullin there and he the deponant asked them where they were from and they answered him

May 3 from Annapolis last on which Mr John Taylor told him that they were Acquaintances of his son Billeys and that they wanted to cross over to Virginia to get to Rappahanock to get out to Sea and this deponant further sayeth that when he & Doct^r Robinson got to Taylor's house that the s^d Taylor with the other three persons were drinking Brandy and they were asked to drink and did drink freely with them & that while they remained at the said Taylor's house Taylor with one of the three persons went out in the field and remained there a considerable while and this deponant further sayeth that he always suspected that the said John Taylor was never a friend to the Present measurs of his general Character in his neighbourhood as an honest man was bad

May 1 Mr Ja^s Adderton Have a great Property of Neagros & Plate He lives on St Inegoes Creek near the Ware House whom is a great foa to Mr John Taylor living in Saint Marys County Near the same Place which Have Behaved as a good freind to the Union flag In Distress which made their Escape from ye Prison out of & ye Capturd Jack of the Lantorn

Arthur Gage, 2 Lieut
Mr Doyl
Mr Mullen

St Marys County ss. } Came Benj^a Williams before me one of the
May 1. 1781 } Magistrates of this County and made Oath

on the Holy Evangels of Almighty God, That he this deponet took this Paper out of the Pocket of the Person who Called himself Arthur Gage & who stands on the Other side as a Subscriber thereto.

Sworn to before
J Taylor

May 4 [Arch^d Buchanan, To Thomas Sim Lee Esqr] (p Capt Slaymaker)

This will be handed to you by Captn Slamaker who was along time in the State Service in the Ship Defence, but was taken in the Buckskin he was first Lieutenant of her and is now a Prisoner, he is very desirous off Getting Exchanged and theirs a person here of the same Rank for which he thinks he can get Exchanged, One Chambers Lieutenant of the Privater Lord Cornwallass but was prize Master on Board of a Ship retaken by the Antilope Captn Folgier. Chambers is now here, if you can Assist him in getting the business done I will be much obligd to you. Cap Slamaker has a large Family who depends upon him for Support

May 5 [Dan'l Carroll, Philadelphia, to Gov. Lee.]
Red Book No. 5 Letter 79

I enclose the paper of this day principally that you may see the Step the Executive of this State has taken with respect to the rate

of Ex[a] of the Old Continental money, which has occasioned considerable uneasiness of this City, insomuch that the President & his Council have thought proper to publish their motives & reasons in a handbill, which I cannot obtain to send by this opportunity. There is reason to believe, that in consequence of the measure adopted by the Executive, old Continental money to a considerable amount has been forwarded to the Southward to be dispos'd of immediately Jersey having likewise proclaim'd the rate to be 150. As many individuals in our State, notwithstanding this money is not current by Law, may be injured for want of Notice, I was induc'd to give you this information to be made publick if you think proper. The Ex[ec] before this measure was ab[t] 225. If the old mony passes for any thing after this Bustle over it is probable it will be considerably more than double the Ex. just mentioned. A few days will determine. I write this in a hurry. May 5 Red Book No. 5 Letter 79

[Philip Key, to the Council.] May 5 Red Book No. 30 Letter 94

As the State have a quantity of Tobacco on Chaptico Leonard Town & Llewellins Ware Houses. I will undertake conveying it to Philadelphia as soon as Possible. If the Governor & Council will place the sale of it under M[r] William Molohon. who shall not make any engagement for it without their approbation. M[r] Molohon to have a right to deduct from the sales of the Tobacco—the charges incident to the transportation and the usual Commission.

[Jas. Calhoun, Baltimore, to the Governor and Council.] May 6

The Purchase of Meat, Indian Corn &c[a] for this Post hath again left me destitute of Money & oblidges me to make application to your Hon[ble] Board for a farther supply without which it is utterly impossible to make provision for the necessary Issues at this place which have been very considerable for the Month past

[Rich[d] Barnes, Leo[d] Town to His Excellency Tho[s] Sim Lee Esq[r]] May 6

I received yours of the 2[d] May and must confess, that I am at a loss to know by it, whether the plan we have adopted, of calling out on duty, one hundred of our Militia, to be kept constantly together, whilst the British are in force in the Bay, meets with your approbation or not. As my desire and determination, is to follow your directions, I could wish they were given, in such a manner, as I might not mistake them. However as I am fully convinced of the necessity and propriety of the measure I shall keep them together, when I have made up the number, untill I am directed to the contrary by you. In which case every part of a Ration will be necessary for them, nor can I conseave why it shuld not be allowed them, as well as any of those that are under Arms, for the defence of their Country, it would give me pleasure that you would direct them to be fur-

May 6 nished with some Spirituous liquor to be given generally, in such a manner as you think proper. We have got about eighty young men together, and I am fully convinced will render service to their Country adequate to the expence, and as it has been a work of time to collect them, It would be attended with bad consequences, shuld they be wanted to discharge them. Our peculiar situation makes it at this time in my opinion improper, for the draft directed by the Assembly to be made, and as they will meet shortly, till then, I could wish, you would suspend it, in this County, of which be kind enough to inform me, as I shall let the matter rest untill I hear from you.

May 6 [Certificate of Jn° C. Jones, C. D. C.]

I hereby Certify that Major General Smallwood myself & a Waiter with our horses were put over the Ferry at South River this 6. May 1781

May 6
Red Book
No. 27
Letter 75

[Henry Schnebely, Eliz^th Town, to the Council.]

From among the twelve horses which you ordered under my care, one died ab^t five days after they came to my house, another Died ab^t 6 weeks ago in very good order. one of them tired on the way about 20 miles on this Side of Annapolis which I ordered to be taken care of & sent up if he sho^d recover but have not heard from him Since another became blind a few weeks ago tho appears able to render some Service, the rest are in good Working order, as it will be inconvenient for me to keep them any longer beg you will direct me by Mr Clagett what to do with them, if it is necessary I can provide Harness for them & have them shod, your directions respecting these horses will much oblige—

May 6
Red Book
No. 27
Letter 76

[Wm Smith, Baltimore, to Gov. Lee.]

This will be handed you by Mr Jacob Hayward, who has been so unfortunate as to loose his all & more, by the enemys cruisers, he says he could submit with fortitude to his own Loss, but that he should be deprived of the means of paying his Just debts, & occasion the ruin of innocent people is intollerable. He has been informed that the Captain who made prize of his Vessell out of compassion to his distressed circumstances will restore him his salt, provided, he can find any mode to send for it, he therefore proposes petitioning your honble board, for permission to go down on that business. I believe him to be a very honest man & that he will not do any thing to injure his country, if he is indulged on this head, and further think, you may confide in him & that he may probably render you some Service, by procuring intelligence.

[G. B. Causin, Portobacco, to The Honble Thomas Stone] May 7
(Favor'd by Mr Mcpherson)

I am to inform you that Col. Ware requests you would speak to the Governor & Council concerning the alarming situation of Affairs in this County letting them know the peculiar hardship it would be to the County to have a Draft at this particular Crisis & endeavour if in your Power to have a further Suspension of the Draft here.

[Richd. Dallam, Harford County, to Gov. Lee.] May 7 (at night)

I find myself much at a loss in receiving the State money for the 41 Tax it depreciates so fast that a great part must be lost. Our Commissioners have fixd it at 3 for 1 & hard cannot be bought at 4 for 1 Many have contracted to pay recruits hard money & if executions are Issued and the money received at 3 for 1—the engager looses 1 fourth even at this day. I have recd 400 Dollars at 3 for 1 & the recruits will not take it at less then four in Lieu of hard therefore it sinks in my hands and the Persons Who are draughted, if they engage Recruits which I expect will be the Case will not Obtain the sum they ought owing to the depreciation I therefore shall be obliged if your Excellency will please to give me some advice or directions how I shall Proceed, to keep way with the depreciation I have this day received 4 for 1—but as it exceeds the exchange fixd by the Commissioners Perhaps I may have done amiss which I wld not knowingly do, neither can I care to think the Soldier should Loose therefore have thought it Proper to give Your Excellency the Information & hope I may be informd what is right

[Thomas Jones, Cal County, to His Excelly Thomas Sim Lee Esqr] May 7

The frequent applications I have made to the Council for Tobacco to discharge my contracts for Horses give me Little hope of succeeding now However I take the Liberty to Solicit a settlement of the acct wth Thomas Gray our Sheriff of this county to whom the Gentlemen are indebted to then surely Justice will say discount it. I cannot be of opinion that individuals should be Plunderd for the Benefit of the Public, if there is Necessity Let the Community at large Suffer. I make no doubt but you are truly Sensible how Disagreeable it is to be Duned for money and therefore an Apology will not be necessary. Balance now due 24334 pounds of neet crop Tobacco.

[McHenry, Jeffers & Co. Baltimore, to His Excellency the Governor and The Honorable the Council.] May 7

We have had the honor of seeing your Terms for Shipping Produce & Lumber to New York under a Flag in Consequence of which

May 7 we have determined to send two Vessells. One a Schooner burthen Fifty Tons, Calld the Real Barber, Commanded by Captain Darby, with five hands. The other a Sloop Burthen Twenty Tons, Call'd the Nancy, Commanded by John Jeffers with to men. These Vessells you will be pleased to enter on your list that a flag may be obtain'd for them to proceed With the first to New York.

If it is necessary for one of us to come down, you will Please to Acquaint us.

May 7 [Thos Savin to Colnl Jno D. Thompson Leut of Cecil County]

I do hereby resign my Commission as Major of the Second Battalion of Maryland Militia—

May 8
Red Book
No. 5
Letter 80

[Daniel Carroll, Philadelphia, to Gov. Lee.]

I wrote you a few lines last Saturday informing you that large Sums of the old Continental money were sent to the Southward to be got rid of immediately in consequence of the Step taken by the Executive of this State. The enclos'd paper contains a publication of the President & Council explaining these motives. The confusion still subsists in this city, I believe little or nothing can be bought here at present for the old money at any rate.

I believe I lately enclosd to you a return of some cloathing which had been forwarded to Genl Greens army. I have now the pleasure of informing you that two Vessels are arriv'd to the Eastward with cloathing from Cadiz. A great part of this supply will probably be applied to the Troops under Genl Washington. Before this arrival several articles were orderd as underneath.

I do not remember whether I have requested you to send me the act of Assembly passd last Session in favor of the Baron de Calbs family. Col Du Baisson calls upon me frequently on that Subject. The Rampart arms two Field ps are ready. I have reason to believe their will be a very considerable importation of Arms soon—& mention it that you may consider whether an application for a share of them wou'd not be proper, and answer better than taking the rampart peices unless they are wanted for boats.

Ordered for the Southern Army from Head quarters 1500 Woolen Waistcoats, 300 pr Leather Breeches, 3000 pr Linen overalls, 3000 Socks. Now on the road for the Marquis Corps 1200 Shirts, 1200 Linen overalls, 1200 Shoes, 1200 Socks, 100 Hunting Shirts.

Now on the road for the S. Army 3000 Socks, 900 Hunting Shirts.

4000 pr of Shoes ready made ordered from N. Jersey The Commander in chief has ordered the above articles to be sent forward with 1000 Stand of Arms. 2000 Arms will probably be sent from Springfield for the S. Army.

[W. Smallwood, Charles County, to Gov. Lee.] (favored by Ensign Arthur) May 8 Brown Book No. 2 Letter 38

This will be addressed by Ensign Arthur of the 4th Maryland Regiment, in which he acted as a Voluntier from the 17th June last, under promise of a Commission, but has not obtained it—owing to his having been ever since with the Southern Army.

He claims his Rank from the above Date, and stands arranged from that Time upon the new Establishment & now waits on your Excellency to obtain an Order for the Quantity of Stores and cloathing he may be entitled to, which you will be so obliging to order for him.

We have no news in this Quarter. The Enemy's Ships left Patowmack about four Days ago The Inhabitants have been much alarmed, and have removed most of their Property from the water side. there has been nothing short of a State of confusion here for some time past, but the People are now getting settled again

[Sam. Smith, Balt., to Gov. Lee.] May 8 Red Book No. 27 Letter 77

I am inform'd that Mr Dorsey has receiv'd an order for a Considerable sum of Money on the Collector of this County. I therefore take the liberty to apply & beg that I may have an order if Money is not in the Treasury either on the Collector of Harford or Frederick County, I Have not been troublesome to you knowing the want of the State, or if your Excelly will give me an Order on Mr Calhoun for the flour, say as near as I can at present guess 350 Bbles It would be a quicker & much more advantageous Mode for the State as to settling that Business. I will in that Case give up my Commissions on that quantity, Mr Bowley will deliver this—he is a party Concernd & will receive either the order for the Money or flour, I flatter myself I may be Certain of one or the other, The State of the Bay has been such as made it Imprudent to bring up the remainder of the flour, I Have now sent for it & shall expect it every Day, all the accots are ready for settling in order to prevent Disputes & alterations arising. It will be well for your Excelly to appoint one person properly Capable I will appoint another before whom I will lay the papers & let them settle the general average this will prevent any referrence hereafter, Mr Bowly will give you any other Information you may want.

Mr Griffith has 90 Bbles flour in his Possession which was sent to the State I should be glad to receive an order for it

I enclose three Commissions

[John Smith Brookes, Upper Marlbro, to The Honble The Governor & Council.] (By Capt. Bowie) May 9

My necessity for a sum of Money to Transact the business I am intrusted with, is so great that I cannot refrain from repeating my

May 9 former request. I am indebted to several gentlemen in my neighbourhood for provisions purchased of them early in the Year and they are very pressing for the money. I have not a shilling to procure a flower Barrel or pay a cooper or any other Labourer and Certificates will not answer for such purposes. I shall be much obliged if you could indulge me with a sum of money by the return of Capt. Bowie

May 10 [Wm Hemsley, Queen Anns County, to Gov. Lee.]

Before the receipt of Your Letter of the 14th Ult° I had directed the Recruits raised in this County to rendezvous at Chester Town. This step was taken in consequence of Major Deans informing me that Genl Gist had wrote him to collect the Recruits from Cecil & Queen Anns to that place, & to put them in training immediately. Our want of success in recruiting in this County, is owing intirely to the want of hard money; the persons draughted have really done all that cou'd be expected from them to procure Substitutes. I have as yet passed but 16, Eight of which are enlisted for three years & Eight until the 10th of December. I hope to receive the directions of the Council about marching the Draughts, and beg leave to observe its must inevitable ruin several Families, the Draught having fallen on many poor Men who have a number of children that depend solely on their Labour for a Subsistance. There is a young lad draughted in this county, who has been employed for some Years in the Bay trade, and is now an exceeding good waterman. He was induced to follow that employment from being very sickly on shore. His spirit wou'd not suffer him to get a Substitute least he shou'd be taxed with cowardice. Now if this young Fellow cou'd with propriety be indulged to serve in one of the Galleys State Boats or Barges, I think he wou'd render much more Service than by marching to the Southward, as the climate probably wou'd disagree with him & soon put an End to him. If this request can be complied with, I shall esteem it as a favor.

[P S] As the draught in other Counties was suspended until the 1st of May I conceive the persons draughted in this County ought to be indulged until the 20th to procure Substitutes, and have told then so.

May 10 Red Book No. 30 Letter 96 [H. Hollingsworth, Head of Elk, to His Excellency, Thomas Sim Lee, Esqr, In Council.]

And Please Your Excellys & Honours Your favour of the 18th of April with the draught on the Eastern shore Treasury Inclosed is duly received, and the money principly expended, I have now twenty waggons imployed in the collecting and forwarding the State Provisions, one half of these waggons have been imployed near a month the price I give them ꝑ day is fifteen shillings Specie at the real ex-

change, and find them provisions Forage, you will readily conceive how short a time the five hundred pounds sent me will serve when it is considered that the one half is laid out in Forage for the use of the Teams. May 10 Red Book No. 30 Letter 96

Col° Yeates has often mentioned to me his difficultys for forage, and this day Mr Jones his Assistant (Col° Yeates being absent) shewed me a letter from your Excellency, to Col° Yeates in which you mention that you would write to me about Corn, which I Induced him to think I had some orders relative thereto, this Indus'd me to take the Liberty of acquainting you that I can buy any quantity of corn on good Terms with State money, but not on Credit without giving an Extra price, which will be prejudicial to the purchase hereafter, I am going down the state in a few days in order to look after the Provisions, waggonage &c and will buy any quantity you may please to order providing I am furnished with the needfull, or an order for it on the Treasury of this Shore.

[Le Chevr D'anmours, Council General of France to His Excellency Thos. Sim Lee] May 10 Brown Book No. 8 Letter 58

I had the honour to write to your Exelency on the 30th of Last March. Give me leave to beg for an answer to it, By the Bearer of this. I flatter myself that the importance of the subject it Contains, will have been the object of your Exelency's Consideration; and that in Consequence of it you will be so Good to send Orders to the Collectors of the taxes, who still Continue to threaten his M. C. majesty's Subjects with seizing their Properties, it is also necessary I should have a letter from you in that Regard, that I may Justify myself—By sending it to his Majesty's ministers In France

[Wm. Whitely, Caroline County, to the Governor and Council.] May 10

Your Excellency & Honours I have sent forward all the recruites that were raised in our County except one that has gone out of the way which I shall indeavour to have apprehended; and I would likewise inform you that we could raise our Quota of Men provided I could get the hard money or the rait difference in State Bills—the Commissioners of the Tax having fined the exchange at two for one—a great many Peopel that have hard money wont pay it and at the same time refuse to pay more than two for one in State Bills which is not the difference that is going.

I have Collected as much as would pay of the Recruites that are raised at three for one which is the Current Exchange with us. I have not Issued against those that refuse to pay, for I am at a loss what to do in it as the Commissioners and several others contend that I have no right to collect any other way then at the exchange they have fixed therefore I shall take it as a favour if Your Excel-

May 10 lency and Honours would direct me in what manner I shall proceed whether I shall collect at the exchange the Commissioners have fixed—or at the rait difference between hard Money and State Bills

May 11 [Hercules Courtenay, Baltimore, To His Excellency the Governor & Council of Maryland.]

Some days being now past since payment for the Cloths & Stockings sold you for the use of the State sh^{d} be made; therefore thought proper to remind you thereof & to request the favour of a line from you to Advise What day I sh^{d} Waite on you for payment as above, particularly as Money Daily Depreciates & I w^{d} not Wish the fault to lay with me, in not Calling on you in proper time & also that I w^{d} not wish to Incur the expence of a second Journey to Annapolis on that business.

May 11
Brown Book
No. 3
Letter 13

[M. Gist, Annapolis, to Gov. Lee.]

I am directed by General Greene to proceed to the Delaware State, and from thence to Philadelphia on public business but as my private Stock of Cash is entirely exhausted I have been oblig'd to come thus far out of my way to solicit your Assistance.

I am Informd that the state of your Treasury will not admit of a supply of money for my Expences I must therefore request the favor of Your Excellency and Council to direct the continental Treasurer to advance me about £25 specie or the value thereof to enable me to comply with the Generals Orders which are of much importance

May 11
Red Book
No. 27
Letter 78

[Richard Smyth and Sam. Blunt to Mr Mure, Annapolis.]

I shuld be glad if you Will uze your Intrust With his Excelency or the Comseary of the Cyty or State of Maryland to give Me a Lod of the States Tobaco as I am Laing at Mr Blunts Warehouse and am Ready to take of a Lode of about Thirty hogsheads In the Skuner Portomoke Belonging to Baltimore and if you will Be so kind to send me the Nots over to Mr Rolings With My orders I Will Execute them as sune as Posable from your Humbil Searvent Richard Smyth

P. S. I think the Tobacco in my Ware house now lies at the Mercy of the Enemy, and as Mr Smyth wants a freight and there is a large Quantity of Tobacco in the house the Property of the State of Maryland it would be Better for him to take a loade of it to a place of more Safety Sam Blunt

May 12
Red Book
No. 5
Letter 81

[Dan'l Carroll, Philadelphia, to Gov. Lee.]

An express just setting out gives me an opportunity of enclosing this days paper. By some accident no Letter came by the Vessel from L'Orient as I am inform'd, not even to the Merchants who have

goods on board. The Capt & an intelligent passenger says that three fleets saild from Brest ab^{t} the 20th of March supposed to be destined for North America, the West & East Indies. Capt Josiah left L'Orient the 27th of March. I will endeavour to see the passenger & be more particular by next Post, I am very unwilling to write any thing I hear at second or third hand

May 12
Red Book
No. 5
Letter 81

P. S. The passenger, I am told left Ireland not much more than 2 Mo^{s} past, & says that a number of the Volunteer Association having assembled [damaged] they were ordered to seperate, [damaged] refusing a Regiment was sent them [damaged] an engagement ensued & another regiment having reinforced the first, they were both drove & defeated by the Associates—several regular officers kill'd among them a Col. Blackwell.

[Joseph Ford to Gov. Lee.]

May 12

The confusion the enemy has Kept us In for this month past, and my Books being removed some distance from home has prevented my Making a Return of Purchases in April to your Honorable Board but as I have obtained nothing more than will serve the Militia on duty here for a little time, I do imagine it is not so material. Country make Salt is rising Very fast here, I have a sufficiency for this Post, but Perhaps some others are not supplied in that case it may probably be right to procure some it sells currently for £5 new money.

With submission I think it would be the best time now to purchase live Cattle as they are low in flesh and of course would be Judged Light and have them got into good pastures And a little Corn given them would certainly be of advantage to the State.

[H. Hollingsworth, Head of Elk, to His Excellency Thomas Sim Lee In Council]

May 12
Red Book
No. 30
Letter 98

And Please your Excell^{y} & Honours In Consequence of an offer made me by Mr Richard Tilghman 4th of Queen Anns County I have contracted with him for two thousand Bushels of corn at 2/ specia or the real exchange ꝑ Bushel as the money is to be paid immediately and the corn delivered (as tis much wanted) I begg this money may be sent me or I shall be obliged to sell the corn again to raise the money, the exchanges in Queen Anns is four for one I am told settled so by the Commissioners least it should rise would gladly pay Mr Tilghman immediately—the price of this corn will be two hundred pounds specie or eight hundred State if paid before the depreciation goes further but as I have engaged to pay the most of the waggoners with corn at the rate of Six Bushels ꝑ day, I would advise that one thousand pound State money be sent me to defray the expence as there will be rather a Saveing in it if the corn is bought now at the above price—it may be ask'd why I contracted with them for corn

May 12 Red Book No. 30 Letter 98 I answered because the waggoners flatly refused to go at fifteen shillings Specia to be paid at the Exchange, nor could I prevail on them to go to Worcester and Summerset without contracting with them in this way, and thought it better to do this then to impress them and flatter myself your Excellency & Honours will think so also when it is considered there must have gone a guard with them to kept them at work—those Ten Teams are gone to Salisbury and Snow Hill for the Pork the other Brigade is kept at work at and about the Head of Chester some of them I have ordered to begin to haul down Corn to a Vessel now lying in Chester River, by which I hope to have a part of it here by the last of the week, which if you approve of shall deliver to Col° Yeates, (otherways must sell it on my own account) as soon as this matter is fully compleated, shall do myself the Honour of waiting on your Excellency & Honours and the General Assembly

May 12 [Margaret McFadon, Baltimore, to Gov. Lee.]

May it please Your Excellency I received your Excellency's Letter of the 28th April this day, but think you have mistook the name; I have a son who had the honour to Serve as a Capt Lieutenant in Capt Wm Brown's Company of Artillery whose name is James McFadon who I conceive your Excellency means but he is appointed to the command of a company of Artillery formerly commanded by Capt Gale now at the Southward under Genl Greene, my son has left this Town near three months on his way to the Southward but am confident that if permitted by Genl Greene will Embrace with alacrity any command that your Excellency pleases to confer on him

May 12 [John Taylor, Prison, Anns, To his Excellency the Governor and the honble the Council of the State of Maryland.]

The Petition of John Taylor now a prisoner in the public jail of this City most humbly Sheweth That your petitioner being near Sixty years of age, and a native of this Country was apprehended (notwithstanding the natural tie of a Man's attachment to his Country) and taken on Suspicion of his being friendly and assisting to the Enemy under which he has been imprisoned these ten Days last past.

Your Petitioner being conscious within himself that the charges exhibited against him, upon the matter being elucidated before the Court, will be found groundless and Migatory, he is emboldened to apply to the Clemency of your Excellency and Honors to cause him to be removed from his present place of Confinement which you must be sensible is not a place adopted for the Confinement of even the basest Criminal, much less for a man of his Age and under his impressions (tho unhappily under suspicions) when the greatest Vilain by Law is ever deemed innocent until he is Convicted by his peers.

Your Petitioner therefore prays that your Excellency & Honors, the premisses considered will grant him the indulgence prayed for by Causing him to be removed from the loathsome place he is now in to any such place of security you may think proper to appoint until the matters alledged against him be fully heard by the honble the Judges of the General Court. May 12

[Baruch Williams, Cecil Co'ty, to Gov. Lee.] May 13

I have received many Applications from Co^l Yates to supply him with Forage at the Post at Elk. I have one this minit before me, informing of their distrest situation for Want of that Article I am realy sorry to Inform you that it is out of my power to purchase any without Cash. I have made known to Col^o Hollingsworth my Situation who informs me he has given Intimation to the Govr & Council of it. I cannot be answerable for the Distrest Situation of that Post without having means in my power to relieve them. I wou'd not wish to be Censured by the Govr & Council in my Conduct which is the occasion of my now writing, otherwise I shou'd not, as Coll. Hollingsworth has wrote to the same purport often as he tells me. Corn can be had from 2/ to 2/9 hard p^r Bushell, the Commissioners of the Tax have fixt the depreciation of this State at 3 tho' few and very few will take at that. I only want the power together with the Govr & Councills directions as to the price & if a purchase is made in hard money (which Purchases generally are now made in here) at what Depreciation in State—I then will take all Blame if every article which is now wanting is not provided. I would write oftener to inform you the Difficulties I Labour under but as Col^o Hollingsworth has to write so often about his own Affairs his mentioning them to you I hope will Appologize for my Neglect.

[C. M. Croxall, Baltimore Town, to the Honl Governor and Council.] May 14

Yesterday Mr Young did me the honor of handing me yours respecting his Vessells, every part of the directions shall be punctually adheard too

I have been detained here these three days collecting as much Specie, as will answer my expences

To-morrow I intend for Philadelphia and shall delay no time in the execution of my Business

[Dr. Alex. Skinner, N. Carolina, Roan County, to His Excellency, Gov'r Lee.] May 14

Upon my arrival in this State I found Mr Gordon possessor of Three Certificates for the purchase of Horses which the Liberality of your Assembly were pleas'd to Grant to Lt Col^o Lees Legion.

May 14 The bearer of this was furnishd a Horse upon the Credit of them & I have to request your Excellencie that you will be so Kind as to use your Influence to have the money paid him upon presentation as I have given the strongest assurances of the faith & punctuallity of the Government over which you preside

This will be delivered too late to give the occurrences of the present period If I can meet with a speedy opportunity I shall do myself the pleasure of communicating them to you

May 14
Red Book
No. 27
Letter 79

[R. Stevens, Cambridge, to Gov. Lee.]

I have been Informed that you are in want of Vessels to go as Flags of Truce to New York shou'd that be the case I have one now at your Service, Lying in Great Choptank River which will Carry about Two thousand Bushels, one of good Carracter and a good Sailer, shoud such a Vessel meet your aprobation shall be glad to know your terms and what you woud Chose to send in her, Mr Gustavus Scott will be kind Enough to forward any Letter or answer you may think proper to send on this Subject the Vessel Can be Ready in a few days

May 14
Red Book
No. 27
Letter 6

[Wm. Klein, Calvert County to His Excellency Thomas Sim Lee Esqr]

Impress'd with sentiments of respect and influenced not only from long knowing your friendly disposition to oblige when in your power, but from my late heavy loss by the Enemy which oblig'd me to leave my home & thrown me out of Business. I beg leave to solicit your Excellencies friendship to the appointment of any place at the Disposal of your Honble board which you may judge me capable & worthy of executing: and shou'd it meet with your Excellencies approbation I flatter myself I shall not disgrace it as you may rely I shall make it my Study as it will be my Duty to pay the necessary Attention an appointment in either the neighbouring Counties. Annapolis or Baltimore Towns will suit me as I am at present unsettled.

The above reasons I hope will induce your Excellency to excuse this Intrusion.

May 15
Red Book
No. 26
Letter 100

[Willm. Fitzhugh, Calvert County, to Gov. Lee.] (p^r^ favor of Doct^r^ Watts)

This will be handed to you by Doct^r^ Watts, whom I beg leave to recommend As an Assistant Surgeon to one of the Battalions of This State. Doct^r^ Watts is a Prudent & Valuable Young Man & I doubt not will merrit the appointment He solicits, I shall therefore be obliged to your Excellency for favoring His Application. I have Inclosed a Letter from Doct^r^ John Bond, who I believe is one of the

Best Surgeons in the State & under whom this Young Gentleman has Study'd & Practis'd I promise myself the pleasure of seeing you at Annapolis on Monday next, My Delinquency this week, has proceeded from the Disagreeable Change of weather which has Given me a bad Cold. May 15 Red Book No. 26 Letter 100

Mrs Fitzhugh Joins with myself & Family in respectful Compl^ts^ to you your Lady & Family.

[Jno Bond, to Col. Wm Fitzhugh] (p^r^ Dr Watts) May 14 Red Book No. 26 Letter 99

The bearer Mr Wm Watts waits on you, to beg the favour of a line to the Governor: He is desireous of enter^g^ into the service of this State, as assistant Surgion, for wch place you may be assured he is well Qualified, hav^g^ been with me four Years, is very diligent & discreet. Mrs Bond joins me in Comp^ts^ to y^r^ self y^r^ Lady & Family.

[Request of John Stewart to go to Great Britain] May 15 Red Book No. 23 Letter 119

John Stewarts Comp^lts^ to John Winder & John Done Esq^rs^ Requests the favour of them to apply to the Genl Assembly of Maryland for Permission for him to go to Great Britain, where he has Business of Consequence to settle in the mercantile way & proposes to return to Maryland in a year or two he proposes to take his son ab^t^ 7 years of age w^t^ him for his Education if permission is granted please to get me a pasport or Flag to Portsmouth where I expect to get a passage from.

Somerset, May 15th 1781

[John Stewart, Somerset County, to Gov. Lee.] [May] Red Book No. 23 Letter 118

Matters of very considerable consequence to me, renders it necessary to make Application to your Excellency, for permission to go to Scotland with liberty to return to my native Country when I shall have compleated the business for which I solicit the leave. I hope I may be permitted to pass thro' the Enemies lines either at Portsmouth or New York to obtain a passage in some british Ship. If the Indulgence is granted me of going I beg to be indulged with taking with me my son, an Infant of about Seven years of age, who I wish to leave there with a Relation, for the benefit of his Education—for my character during the present dispute I refer you to any of the Gentlemen from the County or any person who knows me

[Holker, At Philadelphia, to Gov. Lee.] May 15

I have the Honor of requesting that your Excellency & Council will Please to Direct the officers of the State whom it may regard to Permit Messieurs Ridley & Pringle In whose hands his Majestys stores in Maryland are at present reposited, to forward to this City fifteen hundred Barrels of Biscuit, for the use of his Majesty's navy

May 15 under such restriction & formalities as your Excellency & Council will think Proper. I have Recomended to Messrs Ridley & Pringle to take great care that the said Biscuit or any part of the Provisions may not fall into the Power of the Enemy, I hope you will please to Give the necessary Instructions, so all possible protection & aid may be given, so as to secure the same.

May 15 [Philip Quinton, Worcester County To His Excellency Thomas Simm Lee Esqr]

The inclosed Commission with the resignation thereon was handed to the first Col^{o} of the Battalion to which I belong on the day of the date thereof in order to be forwarded to your Excellency but was neglected and given bact to me on the 13th february last it being alltogether inconvenant for me to serve therefore beg some other person may be appointed—

May 15
Red Book
No. 5
Letter 82

[Dan'l of St. Thos Jenifer and Daniel Carroll, Philadelphia, to Gov. Lee.]

The late scale of depreciation setled by the Presd^{t} and Council of this State has had such an effect upon the minds of the people at large in this City, that no paper money will pass but upon the most ruinous terms; nor will it be in our power to continue here without Your Excellency and the Council can fall upon some other mode of supply than that of Paper money, we know of but one, and that is to direct the Grinding up some wheat at the head of the Bay into Superfine Flour: this Article will command hard money without which nothing can be done at this place. Mr Joseph Gilpin would undertake this business and execute it with dispatch. Col Hollingsworth the Comm^{ry} Genl has too much on his hands to allow him to pay proper attention to this mode of supply, besides he might be from the head of Elk when the Order might reach that place, and our situation is such that delay would be distressing.

May 16 [Memorial, Elkridge, A. A. County, to Col. James Brice.]

We whose names are underwritten Do hereby Certifie, that being near Neighbours to Nicholas Selby, Do know that he has for above three years Past Laboured under Great indisposition of body, which has we firmly Believe at Length rendered him Incapable of Labouring to Support Himself & family, and in order that they might not suffer for the Necessaries of Life, his Neighbours (at least those who have Young Children) have lately made him up a Small School, that thereby he may be enabled to support his family—and as we understand he is Drafted to Serve in the Militia, and having as we conceive no Probable Way of Gitting off, As he has not Lately apply'd to any Phisician, he Having formerly tried Medicine in Vain: Humanity to our fellow Creature, has inclined us thus to Inform you

of his Condition, as we are firmly persuaded he is not able even to travel to Annapolis. May 16

John Hood	Richard Mercier	John Barnes of Ad.
John Hood Jun[r]	William Shipley	James Barnes (son of Adam)
Adam Porter	Talbott Shipley	James Beasing
Andrew Mercier	James Porter	John Barnes of Nathan
George Shipley Jun[r]	Richard Barnes	
Benj[a] Hood	Peter Barnes	

[Geo. Plater, J. A. Thomas, Saint Mary's County to His Excellency Thomas Sim Lee Esq[r]] May 17 Red Book No. 28 Letter 60

From the particular Situation of our County, we are induced to request, that your Excellency would suspend the Draft of the Militia of that County for fitting up the Quota of Troops until the third day of June next.

[W. Bordley, Chester Town, Kent Co'ty to Gov. Lee.] May 17

I rec[d] a Letter from your Council dated 17th Ap[l] 1781 requesting me to send the recruits raised in our County to Annapolis. An immediate compliance with this order was impracticable because none of those recruits were fully paid & the dificulty of procuring Specie very great, the whole or most of them engaged should not march from hence, until they receivd their money agreeable to their contracts; upon my receiving the orders I directly set up advertisements informing all those who contracted with recruits to settle their contract otherwise executions would Issue. I am inclined to believe that every exertion has been made by the inhabitants & that they will settle as soon as possible I am really anxious to have the recruits sent over to Annapolis & will get them ready as soon as possible but what I shall say to them about the Cloathing I know not as they have been promised to be clothed here agreeable to the Law & every imposition of this kind retards the recruiting business. You will observe by the enclosed List that I have passed a man for each Class one only excepted, which Class was Drafted on the fifth of this instant & I am in hopes of geting a three years soldier in his room as a nine months recruit will be of very little service I apprehend that those counties who at a very great price in Specie have procured soldiers for three years, will not be on the same footing with those who have only furnished them for nine months or paid their State money agreeable to what the commissioners fixed it at. My Clark is making out my Acc[ts] which I shall send soon by one of our delegates not having it in my power hitherto on acc[t] of the Enemies Vessels being in the Bay.

Major Dean the bearer of this Letter has had the charge of our recruits & I expect your Excellency will have it in your power to supply him with sufficient Clothing for them

May 17 [John Murdock, Montgomery County, to the Governor and Council.]

If it be possible for you to send five or six Suits of Cloathing, of different Sizes, for some of the Recruits now in George Town. I think it would greatly forward Matters; and the sooner they come the better as they might March immediately to Annapolis.

I find that some of the Recruits are not willing to leave the County, until they have received their Cloathing; This unwillingness, as far as I can learn, has been occasioned by the good Offices of some busy meddling Persons, which now renders it indispensably necessary to comply with the Law in that Respect

The Draughting in this County was finished on Tuesday last, and I shall transmit you a List of the Recruits and Draughts as soon as possible.

May 17 Red Book No. 27 Letter 80 [Pat. Sim Smith, Calvert, to Gov. Lee.]

I received a letter from the president of the Council dated the 4th Instant informing me that I should Immediately be furnished with Barrells and Salt to secure the provisions I have on hand—having neither received or heard anything of them since, I take the liberty of writing once more requesting that I may be supplied without delay, or it will be Impossible as the warm weather increases to save the provision Beef especially, altho I have taken every precaution & used a great deal of Salt to preserve it—tis all in large Casks & I cannot get Barrells or small Casks here to put it in. I think I shall want about 24 Barrells could wish to have as soon as I receive them the whole removed, and flatter myself I shall have orders for that purpose.

May 18 [George Dashiell, Somt Coty, to Gov. Lee.]

May it Please yr Excellcy I am to acknowledge the receipt of your letters of the 24th of Apl with the inclosures and also Mr Brices of the 14th It has some time since become impracticable to Attempt the removal of the inhabitants from the Islands without Arm'd Vessels. Hollands Island is the enemy's place of rendevoux—relative to the recruits their is not one in the County. Many of our people have lately left the County and it is generally believed Join'd the enemy. From the disaffection which prevails among the inhabitants of the county, it is not in my power to Collect a Sufficient force to prevent the ravages of the barges and I have not a doubt but in a little time our situation will be intolerable unless some mode can be fall on to compell the Militia to render their services when required.

May 19 Red Book No. 8 Letter 26 [Sam. Huntington, President, Philadelphia, to Gov. Lee.]

Your Excellency will receive enclosed, the Copy of a Resolve of the 17th Instant, recommending to the several Legislatures to enact

Laws making further Provision (as specified in the Resolve) to guard against the Abuses & deceitful Practices of the British by making use of Papers & Clearances they may take in American Vessels

May 19
Red Book
No. 8
Letter 26

The Measures recommended in this and the former Resolve of the 11th of November 1780 become the more necessary, as our Allies have not only suffered by the Deception of the British, but in several Instances our own People in the West Indies have also suffered from the French under the Apprehension that they were British, for Want of Evidence and proper Documents to evince the contrary

[Dan'l. of St. Thos. Jenifer and Dan'l Carroll, Philadelphia, to Gov. Lee]

May 19
Red Book
No. 5
Letter 83

We immediately upon receipt of the Letter you honord us with by Mr Croxall, laid it before Congress, who referred it to a Special Comittee We have some reason to believe, the measure proposed cannot be carried into execution, as a report on an application to send provision to Charles Town for the prisoner there was rejected. It is therefore probable the report will go no further, than that the state may send Tobacco for the purposes mentiond. The Board of War having wrote to Genl Washington to know of Sr Hy Clinton whether Tobacco wou'd be received at Charles Town to be disposed of for the use of the Prisoners, his answer may likewise determine whether it woud be received at New York. We hope to be able to inform you of the determination of Congress by the Post

P. S. We return to the Treasury by Mr Croxall, the money which was drawn for us we can make no use of it here.

[Sam Smith, Balt, to Gov. Lee.]

May 19
Red Book
No. 27
Letter 81

Difficulties in Commanding Militia oblige me to be troublesome to your Excelly—Gentlemen accept of Commissions something disoblige them & they reject them. I intend if possible to make my Battalion respectable, if Militia can be so. I must beg your Excellys pardon for so frequently giving you Trouble I inclose you Mr Sadler's Comm. who refuses to serve & Mr Daniel Dennis Commission 2nd Lieut & beg he may have one fill'd as first Lieut to the same Compy I also request Commissions for John Stewart as 2nd Lieut & Thomas Constable Ensign to the same Compy. It is more difficult to procure proper Officers than Men.

[James Wood, Frederick Town, to Gov. Lee.] (Hond by Colo Johnson)

May 19
Red Book
No. 28
Letter 10

I did not receive your letter of the 10th ultimo 'till yesterday. I was detained much longer in Richmond than I expected by Particular request of the Executive; and have since been so much Indisposed

May 19
Red Book
No. 28
Letter 10

as to render me unable to Travel for several Days. If I had received your Letter sooner, I shou'd most Certainly have removed the non-Commissioned officers and Privates Immediately to Fort Frederick, Notwithstanding the very unfavorable report made to me by Col° Rawlings of the situation of the Place and impossibility of Procuring Provisions. I shall have a Sufficient Guard to remove them by Tuesday next, when I shall send them off—with respect to the British officers, I received a Letter from the Board of war, Dated 12th April, Directing me to Permit two of the officers of Convention to go to the flag, in Order to receive the money & Necessaries sent for their use, which though not expressed, yet fully implied that they were to be indulged to remain 'till the Arrival of the flag; Besides it wou'd have been utterly impossible for me to have complied with the Instructions of the Board of War, unless the sherif of this County had been able to furnish me with money agreeable to your order. I am extremely glad it is the wish of your Honble Board that Col° Rawlings shou'd Provide for the Troops sent to Fort Frederick; there will be no Impropriety in me to give Col° Rawlings the Command of the Guard at Fort Frederick, which will be under my superintendance, and which I shall Constantly visit, in Compliance with my Instructions from the Board of War I hope your Honble Board will be Persuaded, that the Delay in the removal of the Troops has not arisen from inattention to their Instructions, but from the reasons which I have given; they may be assured that it will always give me Particular Pleasure to Carry their Ideas into execution, while I Continue on this Disagreeable Command.

May 20
Red Book
No. 28
Letter 11

[Col° Jas. Wood to Colonel Baker Johnson]

I have inclosed you a Copy of Lieutenant Moore's memorial to General Phillips, by which you will Perceive his reasons for wishing to obtain his Parole to go to Ireland—you Know my Opinion of this Gentleman, and shall be much obliged to you in mentioning his Case to His Excellency Governor Lee whose Letter to the Board of war wou'd be a Certain means of Gratifying a worthy Character, and one who I have every reason to believe is in his Heart, a Friend to the Liberties of America.

Red Book
No. 28
Letter 12

[The Memorial of Lt Josh Moore of the 20th Regt british Infantry, under the Convention of Saratoga To Major Genl Philips, New York.]

Your Memorialist some Months subsequent to your departure from Albemarle Barracks, received a Letter fr Europe informing him of the melancholy event of his Fathers death, & urging him to leave no effort unattempted to procure provisions to return to Europe, as his Father had died intestate & left the Affairs of the Family in the most unhappy confusion; in wch State of anarchy they must

unalterably remain, untill your Memorialist can be present to have them properly adjusted Red Book No. 28 Letter 12

Your Memorialist conscious of indulgence from your humanity & consideration, presumes to recommend his critical situation to your notice hoping that where the satisfaction of so many are concerned you will not refuse your assistance, but by enabling your Memorialist to dispell the anxiety of his friends make a whole family indebted to you for their happiness

[H. Hollingsworth Head of Elk, to His Excellency, Thomas Sim Lee, Esqr., in Council.] May 21 Red Book No. 30 Letter 95

Inclosed is a return of Provision received in April which should have been sent in much sooner had not I expected much fuller returns from the Commissarys of the distant Countys, but as I have receivd none but such as appears more proper for the returns to be made for this month, have thought it most proper to send these forward, and to inform your Excellency and Honours of the prospect I have for may, which is enacted to the foot of the return, which I shall accompany a full return for, and deliver in, in a few days, and shall then explain anything that may appear not clear or Satisfactory (if any such there should be) (See page 250)

[John Scott, W. Bordley, Robt Maxwell, Saml Davis, James Claypoole, to His Excellency Thomas Sim Lee Esqr] May 22

The Office of Coroner for the upper part of Kent County being Vacant, We begg leave to recommend to Your Excellency—George William Forester as a proper person to fill that Office.

[David Randal, Main Gard to Gov. Lee.] May 22

Most Worthy & Honourable Sir this is the Humble Pertision of a poor man without Friends trusting to your Honourable Benediction hoping your Excelencey will take it into Consideration in this matter of unjustis as I Deem it to Be no Less Being about my Lawfull Business Mr Clark & Mr James Williamson haveing Been Gameing at Cards Williamson Being the Loser of one Hundred weight of Beef & a quantaty of pork which was to Be Paid in the winter But Clark Pertending to have a Commission to take up all strolers he for Gave that Debt of Williamsons to assist him to take me as such But I being no such a person as Being well Known to Every one But minded My Business to maintain my famialy & to Pay my taxes as a free man ought to Do Mr Clark as far as I Could understand had as it were sold me for a quaintaty of Rum to Be paid By Mr John Steward to Bring me to Anopalice after the return of the Recept Given for me at the abovementioned Place But I making my Escape from Clarks house meeting James Stone he told me if I

April
Red Book
No. 39
Letter 95

Return of Sundries received on Account of the State of Maryland by Colo. Henry Hollingsworth. in the month of April 1781

	Of whom received	By whom received	Head Cattle	Barrels		Bacon			Nt Weight	Pounds			Bushels			Hay		
				Flour	Bread	Midlings	Hhds	Tierces		Bacon	Beef	Pork	Corn	Oats	Rye	Tons	Cwts	Qrs
Apl 3	Baruch Williams																	
		John Beetle	..	..	..	..	..	..	....	..	..	..	122					
" 11th	Charles Blake	Benjamin Elliot	13						7375									
12	Joseph Bruff	Thomas King	19	..	..	..		..	7950	..	..	..		..	..	..	..	..
20	Philip Casson	Negroe Charles		..	..	..	3	—	1908	..	..	..		..	..	.	..	..
	Baruch Williams	John Beetle		..	..	..				..	..	..		..	..	..	..	..
21	Philip Casson	William Cannon		..	..	..	3	1	1866¾	..	..	..	73	..	..	..	..	..
30	William McBryde	William Hatton	8	..	..	..			3813	..	..	..		..	..	..	..	..
		Total	40				6	1					195					

Report of provisions collected by the Commissarys of Worcester, Dorchester Queen Anns & Kent Countys now forwarding

Pork 70 Bbls & more expected	Worcester
Pork 39 Bbls 10 Beeves on hoof Wheat 750 Bus. Beef 4 Bbls	Dorchester
Flour 219 Bbls	Queen Anns
do 200 Bbls Nearly ready in mills	Kent

H. Hollingsworth
C. Gl E. Shore

would stand his Class for him he would Give me fifteen Hundred Pounds & a sute of Clothes which if I stood the Draft and Came of Clear after that they took the Liberty Ether for a thousand pounds or a hogshead of Bacco to sell me as a Slave But Being a freeman I think I ought to have the Liberty to Dispose of my self and moreover they never have paid me the hole of my money within five hundred pounds & the Cloths this is the real Truth of my Confindment so I hope your Excillincey will Consider my Case and Befriend me with the hand of Charity & I shall Be for Ever Bound to pray for your Excillencey Goodness and remain your most Humble & Duty full Servant to Command May 22

[P. S.] Haveing a wife & three small Children in Great Distress

[Ridley & Pringle, Baltimore to His Excellency Thomas Sim Lee Esqr] May 22 [Indorsed "Ridley and Pringle with a letter of the 15th from Mr. Holker"]

Should your Honble Board be pleas'd to comply with the requisition made in the letter we have the honor to inclose, we beg that your Excellency will order the Permit to be forwarded as soon as convenient being very desirous to embrace the present favourable opportunity of transporting the Provision. (See page 243)

[Henry Gray, Charles County, To his Excellency Thomas Simm Lee Esquire] May 23

The petition of Henry Gray of Durham Parish and Charles County now humbly sheweth That a presentment was made against him by the Grand Jury for the Body of Charles by which he was charged with having assaulted a certain Benedictor Davis upon which Presentment at last November term he Submitted to the Court who imposed a Fine of twenty Pounds State Money upon him. Your Petitioner conscious of his harmless intentions was astonished to hear his conduct grossly misrepresented in Testimony which charged him with having behaved rudely and indecently to the said Benedictor Davis—And as she received no injury and as your petitioner has very little to Subsist on other than the profit arising from his rare industrious Labours Your Petitioner was greived to find that the Court have imposed a fine which your petitioner most humbly hopes your Excellency will think immoderate and unreasonable and grant him such releif as your Excellency in mercy shall think proper and your petitioner shall ever pray

Charles County May 1781

We the Subscribers Neighbours and acquaintances of the within Mentioned Henry Gray do certify that he hath allways been esteemed a modest wellbehaved young man and in every other respect has sustained a reputable honest Character and we never heard of his having been Guilty of or Charged with any misdemeanour except the within mentioned assault and have the greatest reason to beleive

May 23 what he hath set forth in the within Petition is true we therefore recommend him to your Excellencys Clemency. We the Subscribers were present when the within mentioned fine was imposed and are of opinion that the same was immoderate and excessive

Thos Semmes	Thomas Smallwood	John Delozer
John Muschett	Bayne Smallwood	Gerred Johnson
Jas Farnandis	Frans Shepard	Clement Clements
Frans Ware	Robert C. Hall	Lawson Luckett
Henry Barnes	Philip Warder	Thos Harrison
Wm McConchie	Peter Farnandis	Samuel Middeton
Walter Pye	John Ward	Zachariah Price
Hez. Garner	P. H. Marbury	Richd Elgin
Joseph Gray	John Clements	Jos Simms
Thos A. Dyson	J. Heaislip Jur	William Cox
David L. Ward	Thos. Craycroft	Henry M. Hanson
John Hall	Chas. Mankin	Charles Goodrick
William Brawner	Theos Hanson	Chas Sewall Junr
Benj. Douglass	Charles Clements	Thos Evans
Henry Ward	William Smoot	Notley Luckett
Thomas Ward	Joseph Wheeler	Jno Gwinn
Peter Dent	Alexr McDonald	Mathew Garner
John Ward	John Copher	

May 23
Red Book
No. 27
Letter 82

[John Scott, Robt Maxwell, James Claypoole, Saml Davis, Kent County, Chester Town, to Gov Lee.]

We beg leave to mention to your Excellency; That some of the Gentn in the last Commission of the Peace for this County never have qualified, or can we hear that they intend doing it, and that we are greatly in want of Magistrates to do the business. We beg therefore to recommend to your Excellency to give us a new Commission of the Peace; and to leave out those who have not as yet Acted in this Station. They are William Granger, Thomas Smyth Jr William Maxwell, and Isaac Freeman And that your Excellency, will please to put in their Places; Doctr Thomas Vandyke, John Bolton, Colonel Richard Graves, and Abraham Falconar. We also recommend, Doctr Vandyke to be put in as a Justice of the Orphans Court Instead of Thomas Smyth Junr

May 23 [Joseph Nelson, Charles County To his Excellency Thomas Simm Lee Esquire]

The petition of Joseph Nelson of Port Tobacco parish and Charles County most humbly Sheweth that a Presentment was rendered against him by the Grand Inquest for the Body of Charles County by which he was charged with having assaulted a certain Virlinder Haislup upon which Presentment at last November term be submitted to the Court who imposed a Fine of Thirty pounds State

Money upon him. Your Petitioner conscious of his Harmless intentions was astonished to find his conduct grossly misrepresented in Testimony which charged him with having behaved rudely and indecently to the said Virlinder Haislup. As she received no hurt and as your petitioner has little to Subsist on other than the profits arising from his industrious Labour (for himself his wife and children) your petitioner was grieved to find the Court imposed a Fine upon him which he most humbly hopes your Excellency will think immoderate and excessive and will grant him such releif as your Excellency in mercy shall think proper and your petitioner shall pray May 23

Charles County May 1781

Wee the Subscribers Neighbours and acquaintances of the within mentioned Joseph Nelson do certify that he hath allways been esteemed a well behaved modest man and in every other respect hath allways sustained a reputable Honest Character and we never heard of his being guilty of or Charged with any misdemeanour except the within mentioned assault and have the greatest reason to believe the facts therein stated are true. We therefore recommend him to Your Excellencys clemency. We the Subscribers were present at the Trial when the within mentioned Fine was imposed and are of opinion that the same was immoderate and excessive.

Walter Pye	Bayn Smallwood	John Copher
W^{m} McConchie	Fran^{s} Shepard	John Delozer
Henry Barnes	Philip Warder	Gerred Johnson
Fran^{s} Ware	Anthony C. Gray	Richd Elgin
Hez. Garner	Peter Farnandis	Thos Harrison
Joseph Gray	John Ward	Jo^{s} Simms
Thos. A. Dyson	P. H. Marbury	Lawson Luckett
David L. Ward	John Clements	Clement Clements
Benj^{a} Douglass	J Heaislip Ju^{r}	William Cox
John Hall	Ja^{s} Farnandis	Henry W. Hanson
William Brawner	Thos Craycroft	Charles Goodrick
Henry Ward	Thomas Hopwell	John Muschett
Samuel Middleton	Chas Mankin	Chas. Sewall Junr
Zachariah Price	Theo^{s} Hanson	Thos Evans
Thomas Ward	Thos. Semmes	Notly Luckett
Peter Dent	Charles Clements	Richd Gray
John Ward	William Smoot	Jno N. Gray
Thomas Smallwood	Alex^{r} McDonald	Jno Gwinn

[Overton Carr, to His Excellency Thos. Sim Lee Esqr] May 24

Mr Hanson going to Annapolis affords a safe opportunity of getting down my Papers, I have therefore to request, that your Excellency will be so obliging, as to deliver them to him. That Clause in my Bond (to the State) which confines me to Prince Georges

May 24 County, I humbly ask leave to propose an alteration of, as it realy lays me under very great Difficulties; the greatest part of my property is in Virginia, where also I have an Aged Mother, whom it would give me the greatest pleasure sometimes to visit. Should this request not appear unreasonable (and your Excellency and Council think it necessary) I am willing to give a Bond, with sufficient security in double the sum, and shall esteem it a very great indulgence.

May 24
Red Book
No. 8
Letter 24

[Sam. Huntington, President, Philadelphia, to Governor Lee.]

Your Excellency will receive enclosed several Resolves of the 22d Instant, upon the Report of a Committee appointed to devise further Ways and Means to carry on the present Campaign

As the Measures proposed in these Resolves are the Result of Necessity after due Deliberation, it is expected the necessity as well as the Importance of those Measures will have a suitable Impression upon the States universally and excite them to a vigorous and punctual Compliance.

May 24
Red Book
No. 32
Letter 49

[Luther Martin to Gov. Lee]

By any witnesses we have been able to procure nothing has appeared to fix a Charge upon Jno Hammond Cromwell. I submit to your Excellency the Expediency of having Dorsey and Groves brought before your Excellency and the Council and an offer of a Pardon to be made to them upon Condition that they will make a full and Explicit Confession of the knowledge with Regard to Cromwell's Intercourse and Connexion with the Enemy

May 26 [C. M. Croxall, Baltimore, to His Excellency Governor & Council]

I some days ago did myself the honor of conveying your Excellency and Council an answer to yours addressed your representatives in Congress.

I shall be happy in receiving the determination of Congress on the subject as soon as the Council may be made acquainted, and I shall until then wait your Excellencys further orders.

May 26 [Colo Moses Rawlings, Fort Frederick, to Gov. Lee.]

I have the honour to inform your Excellency That the Prisoners from Frederick Town arrived at this Garrison on Tuesday last in number 438 Men 145 Women & 206 Children with These & 70 Sailors The Fort is Pretty full.

I am sorry to say that I have no Meat for them nor guard & not the least prospect of Getting any—as no kind of Paper Money passes in This part of the State at present. The money Your Excellency was pleased to send me by Capt Reid Came at a time when I could not Pass one Dollar of it

I have Inclosed an account of the amount of all the different Species of Provision received in this Country for the present year on account of Public Tax May 26

Shou'd have come down myself in order to have settled all my accounts Finally but I cannot leave the garrison at Present but I shall come down as soon as possible. I have not seen Coll^{n} Wood since I left Annapolis but shou'd he continue to direct the Prisoners in this State—Your Excellency will be pleased to excuse my not acting at This Post. The Dayly Issues of Flour at present here is about one Thousand weight, if this shou'd continue for any time there will not be much Flour to spare From this County. I shall acquaint your Excellency from time to time of the Consumption

[John Reed, Fred^{k} Town, to Gov. Lee.] May 27

I am to Inform your Excell^{y} that the men now Guarding the Magazine at this place are reduc'd to the last extremity for want of Cloaths & shou'd they not receive an immediate supply will be rendred altogether incapable of Sentry; from which Circumstances, & if the State of Stores wou'd possibly admit, should be happy to obtain your Excell^{y} order for the following articles or any part that can be procured to relieve their present necessity, in fact I'm asham'd of their shabby appearance.

Am Sorry to Inform your Excell^{y} that we are now suffering for provision of the meat kind nor have we the least prospect of being speedyly relieved in that way—as nothing can be purchased here without Hard money—paper money being Generally refus'd. I hope the defect will soon be remedy'd.

Mr Murdock has furnished me with shoes, shou'd be Glad he was authorized & unabled to supply me with the rest.

12 Coats, 12 Jacketts, 20 pair Overalls, 40 Shirts, 12 Hatts.

[W. Smallwood, Charles County, to Gov. Lee.] (favor'd by Mr. Dent) May 27 Brown Book No. 2 Letter 37

I am particularly obliged to you for transmitting the Letters which came under cover of your favor of the 18th Inst. this must have been delayed on the Road as it only came to hand two Days ago. I am happy to hear the Assembly were like to convene of which by this Time there certainly can be no doubt and I shall do myself the Pleasure of waiting on them this week.

Camden still continues to be an unfortunate Place for us I am sorry for the Event & that better Intelligence was not obtained & greater precaution used this Place seems to have an attraction in precipitating measures to our disadvantage. The Account you were so obliging to transmit does not altogether correspond with the one I have received

May 27
Brown Book
No. 2
Letter 37

I am informed by Col° Adams that the officers who I ordered to the Southward are detained in Annapolis for want of Money and some necessaries to carry them on where their service is essentially wanted I must therefore intreat your good offices towards facilitating their dispatch

Our affairs to the south wear a gloomy Aspect General Green's and the Marquis's situations are very ineligible but I hope they will be shortly reinforced Wayne with 1100 men has marched before this & I hope the Maryland and Delaware Detachments will shortly follow which must render our Force more respectable and formidable in that Quarter

May 27
Red Book
No. 27
Letter 85

[Jno. Smith, Balt., to Hon'ble John H. Stone, Esqr Annapolis]

I was honor'd with your favor of the 25 Curr^t I have a Quantity of Cloths say 1000 yds. all Brown & Blues except two Blacks of a good Quality for Soldiers, they Cost 16/6 in St Eustatius, the Customary Mode of Selling Goods Imported from thence, has been at 100 ꝑ^r C^t on the Cost say 33/ ꝑ yard at that rate you may have these Clothes provided I receive on the delivery an order on Mr James Calhoun & he will accept it for the amo^t in Merchantable flour at 15/ ꝑ C^t w^t & 22^d for Cases well Cooper'd & Nail'd to be deliver'd on Balt. Town at my warehouse, on or before the first Day of July next, I also must Have permission to export the flour Clear of Duties &c. to any friendly port

May 27
Red Book
No. 27
Letter 86
[Indorsed: "Mr. Turner is desired to procure the Accounts Col. Smith writes for."]

[Sam. Smith, Balt. Town, to Gov. Lee.]

I am now adjusting the Cato's Acc^t & shall be much oblig'd for, the acco^t of freight of the two Vessells employ'd by your Board to bring up her flour Mr Calhoun will bring it up. I also will thank your Excell^y for a Commission of first Lieu^t in Capt Dickensons Comp^y for Mr James Hay.

May 28
Red Book
No. 8
Letter 22

[Sam Huntington, President, Philadelphia, to His Excellency Governor Lee.]

Your Excellency will please to communicate to the Merchants of Baltimore, the Sense which Congress entertain of their patriotic & timely Exertions in generously supplying the Marquis de la Fayette with the Amount of about two thousand Guineas, to enable him to forward the Detachment under his Command.

A Copy of the Resolve of the 24th Instant on that Occasion is herewith enclosed.

May 28
Red Book
No. 28
Letter 13

[James Wood, Frederick Town, to Gov. Lee.]

The British non Commissioned and Privates have been sent to Fort Frederick Agreeable to your Directions. Col° Rawlings writes

me that he is without any Kind of Provisions except Flour, and has not the most Distant Prospect of Procuring a supply of meat, or geting any repairs or additions made to the Barracks, as he is without Tools and unable to Procure workman. I am really apprehensive that the Greater part of those Troops will escape without some Effectual measures Can be adopted to have them supplied wth Provisions Col° Rawlings seems by his Letter to me to have mistaken my Intentions he Conceives the Troops to be Delivered to him as Commissary of Prisoners, my Ideas were for him to receive them as Commanding Officer of the Guard, as I dont Conceive by the resolves of Congress that they were Positively Deemed unconditional Prisoners of war, as the Direction of the Board of war is to separate them from the Officers and to give them the allowance of Provisions Issued to Prisoners of war, untill I shall be informed that Payment has been made for their subsistence heretofore. I find that a Great number of those Troops are Concealed by the Inhabitants, who are greatly offended when I send Guards for them, and go so far as to threaten bringing suits. I beg your Excellency will represent this matter to the Assembly, who I Trust will think it Proper to enact a Law or Pass a resolve for Discouraging a Practice so incompatible with the Interest of the United States. The Board of war Inform me, that a flag ship is to Come up Potomack with money & Necessaries for the Convention Troops. I am waiting here to Transact that Business, and shall be Glad to be informed whether the Flag has Received your Permission to Come to her moorings at George Town

May 28
Red Book
No. 28
Letter 13

[Henry Hooper, to Gustavus Scott, Esq., Annapolis] (Fav^d^ by Capt. Wheatly) May 29

From a Scarcity of money among us I have done very little in collecting Class money and from the short crops of wheat last year and the obstruction the Enemy have given to the Transporting Indian Corn &c up the Bay many people and I think the greater part of them are utterly unable to pay. I should therefore be glad you would represent the Circumstances of our County to the Assembly and endeavour to procure An Act for the payment of Class money, after Harvest in Wheat or other produce to be delivered to the Commissary of the County

I should be glad you could procure me a Copy of the Militia Act as we are at a Loss to know in what manner to impose Fines &c.

Col° Jones informs me our Barge will be ready to launch in a fortnight from this time and wish you would whilst in Annapolis endeavour to procure for her sail Cloath, Rigging, Guns &c.

May 30 [William Gibbons, Elizabeth Town, to James Barnes, Esq. Annapolis.]

Am Sorry to be so troublesome but must request of you to make application to the Governor & Council in my behalf as the Certificate sent by Mr Clagett is only a Copy of one granted Wm Gibbons Junior who is a cousin of mine and settled about Thirty miles from this the same name has led the Govr & Council into a mistake—should it be thought necessary to have any for their recommendation than that given by Doct. Brownson (who is Purveyor to the Southern Army) to you & Col Sprigg I will apply to Mr Telfair one of the Georgia Delegates now in this State who can certify my having taken the Oathes prescribed by the State of Georgia have sat in their Council and held a Commission in their Militia that I was burnt out & drove by the Troops of the British King from that State with great Loss

May 30
Red Book
No. 7
Letter 203

[Willm Grayson, War Office, to Gov. Lee.]

The Board do themselves the honor to transmit to you a resolution of Congress of the 23rd instant, also a resolution of the 11th of April last, by which you will discover that they depend upon the arrears of specific supplies for the last Campaign which have not yet been furnished by the different States to make good their engagements with the Court of France.

As the honor and faith of the United States is so materially concerned, there is every reason to expect the most decided exertions in the States to enable Congress to comply with their contracts.

The Board request you will be pleased to acquaint them with your expectations on this head and what they may probably depend on

May 30
Red Book
No. 5
Letter 84

[Dan'l of St. Thos Jenifer and Dan'l Carroll, Philadelphia, to Gov. Lee.]

Congress was this day informed by a Letter from the Marquis de la Fayette dated at Richmond the 24th that Lord Cornwallis and his Army consisting of Tarltons Legion, Hamiltons Corps 23—33 & 71 Regiments a Hessian Regiment, light infantry and Guards, and 200 Tories with 6 field peices had joined General Arnold at Petersburgh the 20th Inst That he the Marquis had but 900 Continentals besides Militia to oppose to this force which would oblige him to act on the defensive. He further informs, that a British Fleet of Transports convoyed by three Frigates had arrived at Hampton; that on the 22d 12 Sail of Ships a Sloop and a Schooner, got under way opposite James Town, the ships full of Men and Horses, the 24th a body landed from the ships at Westover, and the same day Lord Cornwallis moved from Petersburgh towards Richmond: to this disagreeable intelligence, Congress has received advice from the westward that an expedition from the Lakes against Pittsburg is meditated.

We expected by last Post that your Excellency would have informed us what prospect you and the Council had of making remittances for our subsistance. We are without Money, and almost without Credit; and without a timely supply it will be impossible for us to continue in Philadelphia. May 30 Red Book No. 5 Letter 84

P. S. By private information from New York, the Troops that embarked at that place for Virg[a] were the Grenadiers, 42 Regiment, Anspackers & Boutons Jersey Battalion.

[Jos[a] Beall, Lieu[t] P[s] G[s] Cty to His Excellency Thomas Sim Lee, Esq[r].] May 30

I have been obliged to put off the Draft of the Clases in this county, on Acc[t] of the Depreciated State of our money, some of the Clases have offered to pay of in New Bills, but how I am to receive them as Equal in Value to real money I am altogether at a loss. I have appoint[d] Next Tuesday for the Draft, hopeing by then to be informed at What rates I am to receive the New Emission, If a line could be sent by Lansdall the Post rider and Lodged with M[r] Lyon at Malbro, or by any other oppertunity to that place between this and Tuesday, I shall know how to proceed, otherwise I shall be obliged to put it off to a farther day. Unless some Spirited Meashurs are Speedily adopted to put a Stop to the Villainous practices of such as may be imployed among us by Brittons, and those of a mutch leaser kind among ourselves who are influenced by their low mean Averetious Principles, America must be ruined, And that very shortly.

It will be necessary to Collect & have repaired all the Arms that are of Service in your County

[Don'l Yeates, D. Q. M., Head of Elk to the Governor and Council.] May 30

As the Hon. the Gen[l] Assembly of this State is now convened Permit me to adress you again on the Subject of my former applications, as expectations are held by the United States of certain supplies to be made from each State, when real circumstances are viewed, it may be thought absolutely necessary to take some decisive measures, that doubts may not remain in matters of such consequence to the public, where the supplies are to come from, when I had the honor of waiting on you I asked a small tempery supply of forage to the different Posts within the state as a relief from distressed circumstances thro' the past winter season you were pleased to order it, yet at this place I have not been furnished, and only in part at other Posts, the Gent[n] acting for the State whom you directed to purchase, informs me it can't be done unless I furnish the money, this I can't do, tho' I have from necessity apply'd some money to that use, which was directed to other purposes which renders the proper application

May 30 very deficient (provided the supply is to come from this State) as you are well acquainted with the situation of the Southern Army, and of the importance of forwarding the Stores and the inability of individuals to attain this end when Public support fails, the whole scene of business now being confined to an expencive land transportation, on an assurance I shall meet every assistance from your Hon^{r} board to reduce business to order and efficacy, on this presumption I hope your State of these several circumstances to the Genl Assembly, and view it my duty to give you the facts, there is the utmost want of teams and draught horses, repeated applications has been made to me for these articles from this and the Delaware State, called for as proportionate supplies, estimates of which I have transmitted to you, there is at present of Cloathing and other Stores wanted in the Southern Service, near a hundred loads ready to go forward, the want of which occasions much uneasiness with the troops, I am destitute of forage, horses, or teams, except such as is worn down in the Service and for want of food, these circumstances not being spedily remedied it will be impossible to pass any kind of Stores, thro' the State, the present unhappy situation of our paper credit and the reduced situation of Public Posts in other States renders it absolutely necessary to do some business by impress, modes of Classing teams in such Counties as is convenient to business and calling into service by rotation is practised in some States, this measure so far as I can learn has given Sattisfaction, a number of inhabitants in this County has requested me to mention it as a regulation desireable by them

May 31 [J. Bolton, Chester Town, to Gov. Lee.]

All the Provisions of Meat I have been furnishd with to serve out to the Troops is entirely gone. I wrote to Mr Voorhees the Comissary of Provision, who came here on Tuesday & told me he had sent me all he had, & that he had no money to purchase more. Mr Th^{s} Smyth the Collector is in the same scituation. I have applied to several Farmers for Meat but none of them will let me have any on the Credit of the State except one man who let me have two Sheep & Doct^{r} Scot has promis'd me two or three more this week; but have no prospect of any more unless I had hard money to pay for it, for the State money has quite lost its Credit here; some have offerd to let me have what they could spare provided I would give my Bond to pay them in Specie in two or three weeks, but I have not the hard money nor any way of procuring it in that time.

As there is a Plenty of Flower & more wheat still to manufacture if that was made into super fine Flower & sent to Philadelphia it would sell for hard money, on the Credit of which I might procure some meat, but that cant be done immediately & know not what to do in the mean time. If the Draughted men were sent to the Camp it would lessen the number & the Regulars would be easier provided

for, but they expect their Cloathing before they move & some of them have not got the whole of their substitute money, which they also expect. May 31

[Rt. F. Hooe, Alex[a], to Gov. Lee.]

May 31
Red Book
No. 28
Letter 49

I rec'd your Excellency's Letter of the 29th and would have sent you the disagreeable intelligence we had Yesterday, but the accounts being vague & uncertain I thought it best to Postpone writing untill I could collect intelligence that might be depended on.

Major Dick came here last night, I did not see him, but have his relation of matters from Col[o] Fitzgerald. He says Lord Cornwallis with ab[t] 6000 Troops was at Hanover Court House on Tuesday last—that the Marquis with ab[t] 2000 Regular Troops & ab[t] 4000 Militia was ab[t] 12 Miles distant from him throwing obstructions in their way by falling Trees, breaking up bridges &c That Gen[l] Lesly with a detachment of ab[t] 1000 or 1200 Men had embarked in James River destined it is supposed for Potomack River. Major Dick is gone express to Gen[l] Wayne.

Unless we are soon reinforced the Enemy will shortly March thro this State our Militia being very generally without Arms.

[Robt. F. Hooe, Alex[a], to Gov. Lee.]

May 31
½ past one in afternoon
Red Book
No. 28
Letter 48

An express this moment arrived from Fred[sbg] tells us that the Enemy was from their last information at Pages Warehouses, that the Marquis was to be this night in Fred[bg]. Uncertain whether Lesly was bound to Baltim[o] or this Town—but more generally thought to this Town. And generally believed that Cornwallis means to March thro' Virg[a] to Baltim[e] where a fleet and part of the British Army it is supposed will meet him. We are in a miserable Situation for want of Arms. Our Men are in good Spirits but we are destitute of everything necessary for opposition and defence

[John Sterrett's Application]

May
Red Book
No. 23
Letter 117

George Blunt was put by Cap[t] Yellott as a Prize Master on Board the Ship Windsor She was retaken by a British Ship [of] War and Blunt (in consequence of his attempting to impose upon the British Officer who was sent on Board to examine his Papers) was put into Irons and now remains on Board the Prison Ship at New York and has been there upwards of Nine months past. We would wish to have him exchang'd for one Nicholas Byrn who was taken by Capt. Folger of the Antelope and now remains in Baltimore Goal.

P. S. Col. Stone is requested to represent this to the Council and if the above can be effected it will much oblidge Jn[o] Sterett

[May] [John Collins to His Excelency Thos Sims Lee Esq. Governor of Maryland]

Whereas I have Served five years in the Pensylvania Line and was Lawfuly Discharged in trintowne and after that was Inlisted by Mr Chester three months since for the Maryland Line and was taken up as a Deserter and was confined in hartford County after which Sarjent Dugan made oath that I was Lawfully Discharged from the Line but I had twelve hundred and od pounds which Mr Chester paid for me out of my Bounty

[May] [Proposals from Capt. Thomas Hungerford to the Governor and Councel of the State of Maryland to hire his schooner Sally for such services as they shall direct]

The Schooner to be fitted at the Expence of the State and to be kept in good repair as well the Hull Rigging and Sails, and to be returned in as good order as at the time she first enterd into the service, the State paying to Thomas Hungerford or his order for hire of the said Vessel, at the rate of one dollar specie ꝑ day.

In case the said Schooner should be taken by the Enemy or otherwise lost or destroyd during the time she is in the Service of the state, the state shall pay to said Thomas Hungerford or his order seventy five pounds specie for the said Vessell and all such sums as may be due for hire or otherwise at the time she is taken lost or destroyed.

The schooner to be victuald and Mand at the Expence of the State, and the Owners to be at no expence whatever on account of the said Vessell.

The State may keep the Vessell in their Service as long as they think proper. Thomas Hungerford to be allow'd as Commander of the said Vessell at the rate of fifteen shillings specie ꝑ day, and to be paid all legal charges and expence she may be put to on account of the state. And in case the said Hungerford should be taken Prisoner to be allowed his pay until he is exchang'd.

The Vessell to be fitted out and man'd agreeable to the order and direction of the Governor and Council or such Person or Persons as they shall appoint.

The Governor and Council to pay the hire and Wages of the said Vessell every three months, And all expences Capt Hungerford may be oblig'd to advance and pay on account of the State whenever the said Hungerford shall demand the same with any depreciation that may be due on Money advanced until he receives payment

[May] [M. Mangan, Late Mast^r of the Privateer Schooner, Jack Oth Lanthern, To the Honb^r Govern^r & Council]

Gentlemen the feelings which I have for a Fellow Creature urges me to trouble y^r Honours as I am in hope ye are posessed of the same

I flatter myself ye will make no merit of Mortifying those whom the fate of war has drove so much in y^r Power as those who are prisoners of war in the town goal [May]

Should Esteem it as an Act of Humanity to Grant me a parole to go to Portsmouth or N. York to Effect an Exchange for the Above prisoners of war whom are now Labouring under the Greatest aflictions that the Humane frame Can bear

[The Petition of Solomon Simmonds of Kent County To His Excellency, Thos Sim Lee Esqr, Governor of Maryland.] [May]

Your Petitioners son Solomon Simmonds died some time past leaving three Children viz one boy and two Girls which children since the death of their father have constantly lived with your Petitioner and been under his care. These Children have each had a considerable Estate left to them by their Grandmother Mary Mott and their Uncle Richard Mott who were before their death inhabitants of Long Island in the State of New York where the Estate now is. As your petitioner has lately received a letter from Giles Simmonds and Richard Simmonds of Long Island afs^d Exec^rs to the aboves^d Mary Mott & Richard Mott requesting that some person would in behalf of the Children afs^d apply for their money and other property and as those Children have no other person who will take the trouble of Transacting this Business for them your petitioner humbly prayeth that your Excellency will grant him permission to go to Long Island in order to get their money and secure the other property belonging to them and your petitioner—as in duty bound will ever pray.

The above Petition will be handed to your Excellency by Peter Lawson Esqr who can give you any Satisfaction you may require respecting the Petitioners Character. The Petitioner would have waited personally on your Excellency but his age and infirmity added to the difficulty of crossing the bay has prevented him.

[John Smith Brookes, Upper Marlbro, to The Honb^le The Governor & Council.] (By Mr. Lansdale) June 1

I am well informed there is in the County a considerable quantity of Bacon for sale—some parcels have been offer'd me, but having no orders from you respecting such business, I did not think it prudent to purchase. I apprehend a good deal could be procured with Certificates tho the money would answer much better. I pray you will give me your opinion upon this subject, and instruct me what to do in the matter.

My demands for flower Barrels is very great and I find it impossible to procure them in this county. I am told there is a quantity of Barrels in the hands of Mr Rozier belonging to the publick—pray I cannot I have an order for them? I am in the greatest want of a sum of money to expedite the business, and beg to be furnished

June 1 [And. Buchanan, Balt. Co^{ty} to His Excellency Thos Sim Lee Esqr]

Its Probable in the course of this summer their will be something for the Mil^{tia} to do if so it will be necessary to have some Person appointed to be an Inspector of the Brigade of this County when in Actual Service this officer will rank as Lieu^{t} or Ensign in the Mil^{a} as Mr Hamilton is well acquainted with this duty I hope he will be Authorized to Act in that Station

June 1 [Joshua George A. D. Q. M. George Town, Potomack, to Gov. Lee.] (Fav^{d} by Mr Murdock)

I embrace this opportunity to inform your Excellency that I came to this Post early in April as Assistant deputy Quarter Master under the appointment of Col^{o} Donaldson Yeates & as such apply'd to Mr Thomas Beale for the Commissary Stores in his possession, his answer to me was that he thought he woud not be justifiable in delivering them without orders from the Governor & Council and that he would write to the Governor concerning it, as he has not received any answer they still remain with him. If Your Excellency thinks it necessary you will please give Mr Beale orders respecting them. Mr Beale informs me there is about nine hundred or a Thousand Barrels of Flour in Town & between two & three hundred Barrels at a Mill some distance of that he has not more then Eight or nine hundred weight of Salt provision and no live Stock, this I thought my duty to inform your Excellency of that you might give such orders to the State agents with respect to the deposit of the Stores as you may judge most proper.

June 1 Red Book No. 7 Letter 4 [Indorsed "Secret"] [Sam. Huntington, President, In congress, to Gov. Lee]

I am directed to inform you that Congress have received undoubted intelligence both from their Minister at the court of Versailles, and the minister of france in America by order of his court, that the courts of Vienna & Petersburgh have offered their mediation to the belligerent powers for the reestablishment of peace. That these overtures had been eagerly embraced on the part of Great Britain. That France had declined her full acceptation thereof until the concurrence of her allies could be obtained for that purpose, at the same time observing that should she again be pressed on this head she would be obliged to enter into a previous plan of negotiation conditionally for her self & allies. That Spain had answered in such manner to the proposals of the mediating powers as to shew her eventual acceptance. The intervention of such formidable powers will undoubtedly prove an event the most favorable to these United States, if by a great & timely exertion we sufficiently reduce the force of the enemy now operating in our country. But should languor and inaction Subject us to the contempt of the negotiators all the consequences will be chargeable upon ourselves.

This is a conjuncture that calls for the most serious consideration of these States, Congress have not a doubt in their minds but that each State in the Union is determined to support the confederacy that has been so solemnly entered into through every difficulty & hand it down unimpaired to their posterity. Under these impressions Congress can with confidence call on their constituents for such exertions as are proportionate to the truly critical situation of our affairs. The plan of operations for the present campaign having been preconcerted on the principle of obliging the enemy to abandon their possessions in every part of these States; therefore an unequivocal compliance with the demands heretofore made by Congress for provisions, men & money, are what we have at present to ask for, should these means be expeditiously & punctually put into our hands, we have the most pleasing prospect of putting a speedy and happy issue to the war; by driving the Enemy from their present possessions in every part of these States: but at all events, to confine them to the sea coasts; in order to give as little room as possible to the enemy's claim of uti possidetis which will undoubtedly be most Strenuously insisted on by them in the course of the negotiation. A claim totally inadmissible on our part—of course that nothing should be left unessayed by these States to prevent the embarrassments that such a claim must inevitably produce of consequence it is become indispensably necessary by our immediate and under providence successfull efforts, to place ourselves in such a situation as to enable our negotiators to speak a firm & decided language becoming the characters of ministers of free sovereign & Independent States. We conclude with observing that from the foregoing communications we are so thoroughly convinced of the most Strenuous exertions of every State in the union to accomplish the great objects herein pointed out, that Congress will immediately proceed to carry into full execution their plans adopted for defeating the ambitious views of our enemies; and be prepared to accept of peace, upon no other terms than the Independence of the thirteen United States of America in all their parts.

June 1
Red Book
No. 7
Letter 4
[Indorsed "Secret"]

[Sam. Smith, Balt., to Gov. Lee.]

June 1
Red Book
No. 27
Letter 87

I am honor'd with your Letter of yesterday—the appointment by your Excell^y & the Hon. the Council—I Consider as the greatest favor, & hold myself under particular obligations to your Board for this Singular Mark of their politeness, as well as for many other favors I Have receiv'd from them.

On Considering the resolves indos'd by your Excell^y & your Excell^ys Letter, I think it will be Impossible to procure the Clothing here or elsewhere on the Terms mention'd the Venders will still have but the Credit of the State for payment, this they have had & Complain much of, It will buy nothing here, should I attempt purchases in

June 1
Red Book
No. 27
Letter 87

Philad[a] I must bind myself for payment, they will not trust a State, that her own Merchants refuses Crediting & Considering every Circumstance, the Enemy pushing thro: Virginia already in the very Heart of it our Situation therefore precarious, Superabundant Crop in the Ground, I say under these Circumstances No Man will take pay in flour at so distant a Day as Sept[r] even Suppose the utmost Certainty of being paid then. I presume the Clothing is wanted Immediately to Compleat the 500 Men, No time ought to be lost In Philad[a] on equal Terms with other Merch[ts] I could Certainly purchase Goods at least 25 ꝑ[c] lower than here, but would not the Delay be a greater Loss than the Advantage of price, I presume it would. Three weeks would at least be lost. Clothing necessary for a future Day might be look'd for. At present our Necessities I conceive are such as will oblige us to be less aconomical than expeditious

If the following plan can be adopted I imagine the Clothing may be procur'd Viz. a Quantity of good Tobacco to be put into my Hands, & an Order for flour to be deliver'd Sure on the 15th July sufficient to purchase Clothing as ꝑ List Inclos'd & to pay all Expences of Transportation from the Mills, which the Commissaries say they Cannot do,

An Estimate of 500 Suits of Cloths & funds necessary.

500 Coats made up	at £4	£2000..—..—
500 Vests	1	500.
1000 p[s] Linen Overalls	10/	500
500 Hats	7/6	187..10..—
500 Black Stocks	2/6	62..18..—
1000 Shirts	20/	1000..—..—
500 p[r] woollen Stockings	15/	375..—..—
1000 p[r] shoes	10/	500..—..—
500 Blankets	40/	1000..—..—
500 Knapsacks	5/	125..—..—
		£6250..—..—
Transporting 4000 Bb[les] flour at 3/9		750
		£7000..—..—
4000 Bbles flour each 2[d] w[t] N.	30/	£6000
200 Hhds. Tobacco	100/	1000
		£7000

or 500 Hh[ds] Tobacco	£2500
3000 Bbles. flour	4500
	£7000

[Sam Huntington, President, Philadelphia, to His Excellency Governor Lee.]

June 2
Red Book
No. 8
Letter 19

My Letter of yesterday addressed to your Excellency & which accompanies this, contains such important Intelligence, that Congress have thought it indispensible to communicate the same to the Legislatures of the several States, through their respective supreme Magistrates as soon as possible; at the same Time the Intelligence is of a Nature that ought to be kept secret as may be at present. I am therefore directed to request that effectual Measures may be observed to prevent Copies or Extracts of the Letter of the 1ts Instant from being taken or published.

[Sam. Huntington, President, Philadelphia, to His Excell'y Governor Lee.]

June 2
Red Book
No. 8
Letter 20

Your Excellency will receive enclosed, an Act of Congress of the 31st Ulto. earnestly recommending to the State of Maryland immediately to raise & equip for the Field a certain number of Troops.

Since passing this Act, Intelligence received of the Progress of the Enemy in Virginia & the distressed situation of a Sister State, the great Inferiority of our Continental Troops in Virginia under the Command of the Marquis de la Fayette, render the reinforcements requested more pressing, and require the greatest Expedition to hasten them forward. It is earnestly wished & hoped, under present Circumstances, Volunteers will offer themselves without the least Delay, and join our Troops in such Numbers as immediately to check the Progress of the Enemy, & effectually repel them in due Time.

[Geo. P. Keeports, Baltimore, to Gov. Lee] (Favd by Colo° Smith)

June 2
Red Book
No. 30
Letter 88

May It Please Your Excellency Your Letter of yesterday I Received this morning and in Consequence thereof have Repeated my Application To Mr Thos. Hollingsworth to Let me have the Lead I mentioned in my Last memorandum (on the Credit of the State) which at that Time he agreed I shou'd have at 30 Drs Contil ꝑ lb he now Asks 18d specia ꝑ lb or the Baltimore Exchange—he has Diminished the Quantity Selling it out By Retail and Now has not above 10 C wt Left which with about 8 C wt in the hand of an Other Person which may be had at the same Price is all there is in Town But my Influence and Arguments are to weak to get in on any other Terms then Paying for it Imediately and without more Lead I Cannot make up more Amunition as all that was in my Possession is workd up.

I have Continued and still Continue men Repairing Arms But not without the Greatest Dificulty for the want of money to pay them their wages as they have no other support

I Borrowed 6 Bls of Flour from Mr Calhoun for the Relief of those men I have Imployed which I am to Replace or Obtain your

June 2 Red Book No. 30 Letter 88

Excellencys order for If I could obtain a Few more B^bles^ of Flour at the market Price It would Answer in Part as well as Cash. The Workmen that were Engaged Repairing the Carriages for field Peices & Carriages at the Fort have Quitt work for want of money and I Cannot get any work Executed without Paying for It Immediately

I Flatter myself that If supported with Money (without which Nothing Can be Done) Everything under my Care shall with the utmost Expedition be put in such order that it will Render General Satisfaction and Add to the Credit of

Your Excellencys m^o^ ob^dt^ H^ble^ Servt

NB. Ammunition Waggons will be much wanting and ought in Time to be got in Readyness I am Making out my Returns for Cloathing &c and shall Transmit them to your Excell^y^ as soon as Finished.

June 2 Red Book No. 28 Letter 14

[James Wood, Frederick Town, to Gov. Lee.] (Fav. Capt. Bailey)

I have Just received Instructions from the Board of War, to remove the Convention Troops from the States of Virginia and Maryland to Massachusetts Bay, they have Directed me to make application to the Executives of the Different States for proper Guards for the Purpose, and to Procure a Number of Beeves to Drive with the Troops. In Consequence of which, I take the Liberty of requesting your Excellency to Direct a Guard of Militia Consisting of Two Hundred Rank and file, with their proper Officers, to go on this Duty untill they are Relieved by the State of Pennsylvania; and if you think it Cou'd be Done with Propriety, to Direct Capt Read and his Company to go the whole Route; and the Voluntier Troop of Horse belonging to this County as far as Possible. I shall Immediately make a requisition to the State of Virginia for three Hundred men and forty or fifty Beeves, and hope that about twenty men may be Procured by this State. I Presume it will be about the 15th before I shall be able to march the Troops.

June 3

[Chas Blake, Corsica, to His Exel: Thos. Sim Lee Esqr]

I have the honour herewith of transmitting y^r^ Excellency the several quantitys of provisions Collected in payment of the Tax. I have rec^d^ 2751¾ of Wheat part of which has been forwarded by Col^o^ Hollingsworths order, before it was ground and some flour has been sent; there still remains a considerable quantity at Mr Hemsley's Mill and some at others it is grinding with the greatest dispatch. I have also rec^d^ 41 bar: of flour 8821^wt^ Beef gone forward 8956, and Pork rec^d^ for Tax 4655 included in the quantity sent to Annap: in the Lottery by y^r^ Excellency's order. I rec^d^ y^r^ Excel^ys^ order to furnish the recruits with provisions I have deliver'd in the Leiutenants

absence to the Commanding Col° 10 barrels of flour and bought some Sheep the Salt provisions being all gone. There are quantitys of Bacon to be had in this Co^ty^ for Cash which I have very little of, not enough to settle with the Millers and Waggoners. I mention the bacon for y^r^ Excel^cys^ information where it may be now had it may not long be the case June 3

[Jas. Calhoun, Baltimore to the Governor and Council.] June 3
(Honoured by Col. Smith)

I understand there is great reason to expect it will become necessary to call out a number of the Militia for the defence of the State or the assistance of Virginia, consequently a considerable quantity of Provisions will be wanted, and as none of the Meat kind is collected by the Commissaries on this Shore, we will be in a very disagreeable situation for want of that article unless some mode is now adopted to procure the necessary supplies.

It has been with the greatest difficulty that I have supported this Post for some time past from day to day with Meat, by advancing my own money and making use of my credit both of which is nearly exhausted and not a days provisions of the meat kind on hand When this is my situation where the Issues has been but little more than 100 Rations ꝑ day what will it be should they amount to some thousands, Besides in all probability General Washington will move this way with the greatest part of the Army and depend upon this State for considerable supplies

Under this Idea I presume Your Excellency and Council will readily excuse me for making this representation and as the General Assembly is now Sitting will have some regular plan adopted for procuring the supplies of Meat necessary.

[Wm Hopewell to His Excellency Thomas Simm Lee Esqr] June 3

Inclosed your Excellency will receive this my Commission Which I beg leave to resign for the following Reasons—

first I find from long Experience I cannot act under the Present County Lieu^t^ as friendly as I could wish, Secondly there still remains a dispute between Colonels Handy & Done with myself respecting Rank my Commission being several Months Older than those Gentlemens, and most Cincerely wish to Avoid making the Least discension among the Officers here, & Thirdly three Companies of my Battalion is so far distant that it is Impossible for me upon every little Alarm that frequently happens here to Collect them togeather in time, & when got togeather I am Thoroughly Convinced the greatest Part cannot be depended upon, Your Excellency may rest Assured that my Personal service shall always be ready to be given under any brave & resolute Officer when there shall be the Least Necessity for it.

June 3 Red Book No. 5 Letter 86 [Dan'l of St. Thos Jenifer and Dan'l Carroll, Phil[a] to the Council.]

We received at 10 °Clock last night your favor of the 1st Instant previous to the receipt of it we had pressed Congress in the most earnest manner to succour the Southern States and were ability equal to inclination they would soon be relieved. The Treasury of the United States is totally exhausted. without the hope of its soon being replenished.

Inclosed you have Resolution of Congress of the 31st of May which if it can be carried into execution will afford some relief. If we can upon our own personal Security borrow 800 or 1000 £ Specie (of which we have some prospect) we can in 5 or 6 days get 800 or 1000 Stand of Arms repaired which the board of War has promised to furnish for the use of our State Three hundred Stand has lately been sent forward.

We shall transmit by and express going to the General this evening a Copy of your Letter and doubt not but he will do every thing in his power to afford the desired assistance consistent with his General plan of operation for the present Campaign which we presume he has before this time concerted with the Count de Rochambeau.

June 3 [Joseph Wilkinson, Calvert County, to His Excellency Thomas Sim Lee Esq[r]] (By M[r] Woolf)

Have receiv'd yours of the 1st Instant, The person sent came to my House when I was from Home. He waited not a minute, Which occations me to send the Bearer Express to you with the Bullet moulds. I was surpris'd to hear that you had before gave an order for the Moulds, When no such order ever Reached my Hands. The Militia of this County shall have Immeadiate Orders agreeable to your Direction

June 3 [James Wood, Frederick Town, to Gov. Lee.]

Captain Baily has Acted as Commandant of the Guards at this Post for three months past, the Duty was Extremely Troublesome and Disagreeable, and executed with great Propriety and much to my Satisfaction; I must therefore beg leave to give it as my opinion, that he ought to be allowed the Pay, Rations, and Forage of a Major.

June 3 [Geo. Murdock, Frederick Town to Governor Lee]

In consequence of your Excellency's Letter of the 16th ult[o] I have directed good strong double soaled Shoes to be made for all the public Hydes here and I hope in about Ten or Twelve days, to have them Ready.

[Maj^{r} Edwd Giles, Mt Felix to His Excel^{cy} Thos. S. Lee Esqr] June 4
(By Maj^{r} A. Giles.)

I should thank your Excellency, when the apointment of officer's and the select Militia comes on you will have me considered as a Candidate. As I believe they will be soon called into Action. I will accept any Rank, Your Board will please to confer.

[Rt. F. Hooe, Alex^{a} to Gov. Lee.] June 4
Red Book
No. 28
Letter 50

We have no certain accounts of the movements of the Enemy since I had the Honor of writing you last. By a Letter of Genl Weeden to Col^{o} Hendricks of the 2^{d} Inst. he desires that all stores & expresses going to the Marquis's Camp may be order'd off the Fredericksburgh road into one leading thro' the Country further back he also says that he hopes soon to have reinforcements that will stop the bold and rapid Marches of Cornwallis—the Man who brought the Letter says there is scarcely a Man left in Fred^{bg} that they are generally at falmouth & other Places on this side Rappahannock River—from these Circumstances I apprehend the British Army are moving fast towards fred^{bg} Genl Weeden further writes that a detachment of Cornwallis's Army had certainly embarked for Potomack River.

[Thomas Sprigg, Co^{ty} L^{t} to His Exc^{y} Thomas S. Lee, Esq.] June 4
Red Book
No. 27
Letter 88

Mr James Chapline who was appoint'd L^{t} of Captn Chaplin's Comp^{y} of select Militia was recommended in his absence and without his approbation, he declines the Acceptance, which makes it necessary that some other Person should be Appoint'd I would recommend to Your Hon^{r} to app^{t} Ens^{n} Thomas Cramton y^{r} L^{t} and Benone Swaringin y^{r} Ens^{n}

[John Murdock, Montgomery County, to the Governor and Council.] June 4

Yesterday I received your two Letters of 30th Ult: and 1st curr^{t} by Express and this Day we have very different Accounts of the Situation and Designs of the Enemy from those contained in yours of the 1st Instant. Cornwallis's marching northward is totally contradicted and disbelieved as his Army has not yet been any great Distance on this Side James River, and is still on the Borders of it. The Detachment which embarked under Leslie, it is now reported, is gone to the Southward; so that we are not under much Apprehension at present of a Visit from Cornwallis in any short time.

I thought proper to promise this much, as I have not yet issued Orders for the Removal of the Provisions &c in George Town, which I shall defer until the Return of the Messenger: In short, if they must be removed, it will be highly necessary to be furnished with more Waggons for the Purpose than can possibly be procured

June 4 in this County—and therefore should wish that Pr: George's County and the lower Part of Frederick might be called on to send us some Assistance.

The select Militia and the other Militia shall be ordered as you have directed—but there are no public Arms in this County neither for the select nor the other Militia, except the 50 Stand which were received from the Lieutenant of Pr: Georges County: For my Part, I do not believe besides the 50 stand that there are Arms in this County of any Kind that would accoutre 100 men, most of which are fowling Pieces, without either Bayonets or Cartouch Boxes.

I shall give Orders for the Draughts to march to Annapolis as soon as possible—but there has not yet been collected money enough to pay one tenth of the Men draughted their Proportion of one Shill^{g} of the four, which will in all Probability delay their marching until they are paid it; indeed I am of Opinion that the People in general have not the money nor can they procure it.

I desire to know in what manner you will direct the Recruits to be disposed of as no Officer has yet appeared in this County to take Charge of them.

Some of them have not yet received all their money from the Classes and others are unwilling to march out of the County without their Cloathing; this I mentioned to you in a former Letter.

Some Waggons were employed by me to remove the continental Ordnance and military Stores out of George Town in the late Alarm, the Owners of which are often applying to me for Payment; I have not the Laws concerning such matters, and therefore request you will inform me how and when they are to be paid, and at what Rate ꝑ Day

The Quantity of Provisions &c in George Town is supposed to be about 1000 Barrels of Flour and 8 or 900 Bushels of Corn &c:

Pray inform me what Distance is most proper to have them carried out of Town, in case of Removal

June 5 [Thos Beall of Geo. for T Richardson, Esqr Geo Town to His Excellency Thos S. Lee Esqr]

I am informed by Col^{o} John Murdock that you have Ordered Militia & light Horse to be Stationed here; I am to inform you that—there is not more than 8 or 900 lbs. Pork & 4 Cattle on the Hoof at this place; please to inform me how they will be supplied: with flesh Provisions. I have no money to purchase any thing.

I have supplied Mr Joshua George, (Quater Master) with what Corn & Hay the Continental Troops Stood in need of & taken his Receipts for the same; please inform me by next post if no sooner Opp^{ty} Offers how I must proceed & what I shall do for money &c

[John Murdock Montgomery County, to His Exc^y The Governor and The Honble The Council] June 5 4 o'clock P. M.

This Moment I received yours by Express, and shall order the Militia as you have directed. Mr Thomas Beall of George will inform you by this Conveyance of the Quantity of Flesh Provisions in George Town, which I omitted to do in my Letter of Yesterday's Date.

[Sam. Huntington, President, Philadelphia, to Gov. Lee.] June 6 Red Book No. 8 Letter 15

Your Excellency will receive enclosed a Copy of a Resolve of Congress of the 2^d Instant, directing, that all Bills which are issued in the respective States in Pursuance of the Resolution of the 18th of March 1780, after the Expiration of one year from the Time the Interest on such Bills begins to be completed, be stamped with the Words or Characters Int. p^d one (or 1) year

And that such of the said Bills as have already issued, whenever the Interest is paid, be stamped in like Manner to prevent the necessity & Expence of exchanging them.

It is also the Sense of Congress that the several States suspend as far as possible, the Issuing of such Part of their respective Quotas of said Bills as remain to be issued.

[James Sulivan, Dorchester County, to Gov. Lee.] June 6 Red Book No. 27 Letter 89

I am in want of Money to defray the Necessary charges respecting my Business as Com^y of this County the Comissioners of the Tax do not think themselves impowered by the Assessment law to draw on the new collector for that purpose and the old collector has no money in his hands therefore would be Glad that you will forward me an order on the Treasurer for one hundred and forty pounds ꝑ first opportunity.

I am sending my provisions forward to the head of Chester as fast as possable agreeable to orders from the Com^y Genl

[Joseph Ford, St. Mary's County, to Gov. Lee.] June 7

Enclosed Your Excellency will Receive my Return of Purchases in April and May with an Account of what Stores I have on hand but as I observe in my last there is but little more than will serve the Militia on duty in this County If they are continued for any time We are again Visited by three of the enemies ships Two are in St. Marys River the other a little above in Potomack they have done no damage yet that I have heard off, the Steers that are on hand perhaps had better be kept and the Militia fed with Bacon and Mutton will it be necessary for me to have more Barrels made than will Serve this Post I sent an Application to the General Assembly for a Relief from the Tobacco burnt in St. Mary's Warehouse that

June 7 I had on hand of the Publics if it should be settled in my favor I hope your Honorable Board will do me the favor to give an order on the Collector of the Tax for the Ball^{ce} due at my last Settlement and the Amount due on the enclosed Returns the whole, Twenty six Thousand Nine Hundred and Eighty five Pounds of Tob^{o} Mr Mills the barer brings the Account as Settled by the Auditor General My Account of charges, and coopers wages will amount to About five thousand Pounds of Tobacco More I should be Glad if that could be included.

The Collector has not discharged the Order on him for the Bacon I purchased in money I have Given orders on him and it has been settled in the way of Assis^{t}

June 7
Red Book
No. 29
Letter 44

[Colo. Benj. Nicholson, Baltimore, to Gov. Lee.]

Inclosed is a roll of a Troop of Horse wch I have embodied in the Forest. They have agreed to equip themselves, but the scarcity of cash will prevent their compleating it quickly indeed some of them are scarcely able. The Holsters Caps and sword belts I believe are ready. Pistols are to be had in this Place but I know not where to get swords unless we get them made, wch was the intention of the Troops. If the State could furnish pistols & Swords the Troop might be greatly enlarged and would be in immediate readiness. It was at the solicitation of the youth in my Neighborhood that I undertook the embodying and com^{d} of the Troop. It is my wish to detain my rank as Lt Col^{o} If your Ex^{ly} can consistantly encorporate Horse enough to give me that Com^{d} If not tis the desire of the Troop to be annexed to the Bat^{ln} to wch I belong & should it be enabled to go on duty wou'd wish to go wth them. If this should be improper—I can't be worse than my word & must resign my rank & take the com^{d} as Captain of the Troop I will use my endeavour to get them equiped as soon as posible & I flatter myself when so will be useful—You'l find among our number some Veteran Officers, who have left the Continental Service & whilst in served wth reputation

NB Since the writing the above Col^{o} Smyth informs me he has orders to equip us

Benjamin Nicholson, Charles Carnan, Thos Cromwell, Robt Lyon, Stephen Shelmerdine, John Colegate, John Cockey, Robt Carnan, Joshua Gist, Thos Nicholson, Benj^{a} Todd, Richd Colegate, Bazil Tracey, Walter Bosley, Richd Britton, Edwd Ford, John Dodd, Roger Boyce, Thos. Risteau, John Summers, John Gist, Joshua Cockey, Benja Bond, Christian Gore, Ja^{s} Howard, Fred^{k} Counselman, Jno Worthington, James Trapnell, Joseph Butler, Ephr^{m} Owings, Richd Johns, Thos Cradock, John Bryson.

[G° Washington Head Quarters New Windsor to His Excellency Governor Lee]

June 7
Brown Book
No. 1
Letter 41

By a Resolve of Congress of the 31st of May two Battalions of Infantry and a Corps of Horse consisting of Sixty four Dragoons are required of the State of Maryland to serve for three Months from the Time of their respectively rendezvouring at the Place or Places directed by me. Your Excellency has no Doubt, been made acquainted that the foregoing Requisition is founded upon the alarming Progress which the Enemy are making in Virginia. You will be pleased therefore to give Orders to the Officers commanding the respective Corps to march by Detachment as they are raised and equipped to whatever Place may be the Head Quarters of the American Army in Virginia or in Maryland (should the Enemy have advanced into that State) and take their further Commands from the General or other commanding Officer. I need but refer your Excellency to the Circular Letter of the President of Congress of the 1st instt for the Reasons which ought to influence the Exertions of Your State most particularly at this Moment.

I have the Honor to be with great respect Your Excellency's Most Obedt & very humble Servt

[Sam. Smith, Balt., to Gov. Lee.]

June 8
Red Book
No. 27
Letter 90

I am honor'd with Mr Brice's Letter Inclosing a Law for supplies of Clothing &c under which I have my appointment. I Had before (Under your Excellys order) provided nearly the quantity of Clothing, order'd, it will be Completed in a very few days, when I shall make my returns in Ten Days I shall have 200 Compleat suits of every kind of apparell ready, & in Three weeks you may be assur'd of receiving the whole 500 suits of Clothes I Have had no order for any particular Number of Tents, if I am to supply them, I shall have occasion for another 100 Hhds Tobacco, Mr Keeports Demands will be pretty large. I Have already supplied him with 1200 lbs. Lead at 14d & 15d & Have sent to Philada for a Ton & Have written to Philada respecting arms. I Have dispos'd of a part & sent for the remainder of the Tobacco which will meet with a good Sale at Philada. you may rest assur'd that Nothing shall be wanting on my part to Expedite this very necessary Business. I would referr to your Honble Board the propriety of shipping 100 Hhds Tobacco to france to procure Fall supplies, from hence or from Philad. or both, I believe good Vessells at one Half might be had to take in at the warehouses Clear of Expences, this is more advantageous than at 2/5 in Philada the Diff. being more than sunk in Charges (Independent of the Risk) I do not Consider the risk from this Bay great at present, at Bottom you have a Calculation on such Voyage, should you Order an 100 Hhds Tobacco on accot of Tents please direct the Treasurer to forwd Elk Ridge if any, or any that he has in Choptank.

[June 8] Red Book No. 27 Letter 91

[Inclosure]

100 Hhds Tobacco will Sell at the warehouses at £4.		£400..0
1280 Ells Linen fit for soldiers will cost at least 6/3 ꝑ Ell		£400—
50 Hhds Tobacco sold in France will N^t about 45000^lb French w^t at 100 Livres ꝑ 100^lb		Livres 45,000
Comm. in France 5 ꝑ %	2550	
Charges	750...	3000
N^t proceeds...		42000 Livres
26,500 Ells Linen fit for Soldiers 1.10 [1 livre 10 Sous] is		39750
Comm. 5 ꝑ %		1987.10
Charges of packing & shipping.....		262.10
		42,000 Livres

26500 Ells Linen deliver'd in America
2650 Ells pays the Customary freight of 10 ꝑ C^t here
23850 Ells here clear of all Charges
1280 The Tobacco would purchase here
22570 Ells Linen, Clear profit on a Capital of 1280 Ells will make 10,000 Shirts Instead of 520 Shirts

Woollens & all articles for the Soldiers, are equally profitable, I only State Linen on acc^t or of making the calculation easy, that quantity would not be wanting

Sam Smith

June 8 6 o'clock P. M.

[Franc's Ware, Port Tobacco, to Gov. Lee.]

May it please Your Excellency I have this moment Received information by Express from the Sciper of our Lookout boat That there were Several Sail of Vessels this forenoon Standing up the River Potowmack, one of Which a Large Ship as high as Blackstones Island. I have ordered The Militia to be Collected With all speed in order to oppose them should they attempt to Land Within the County, and shall impatiently Wait your instructions

June 9

[John H. Cromwell, Guard House, To his Excelency Thomas Sim Lee Esqr Governor of Maryland & the Honorable Council.]

Being informed Last Evening by two Gentlemen of the Assembly that they had so ordered our Business, that we were to be Called before your Honors this morning and be so released as to go home, and not hearing any thing more About it beg you'l Excuse taking this method of addressing your Honours. Begging a Call this Afternoon and hope the request may be Granted, Your Honors well knowing what a tedious time we have been here on suspence not only of

the body, but to the great Prejudice and mind of my Inocent wife & Children, Mr Deney waites on you with this begging a gran^t of our Humble request &c &c. June 9

[Rt. F. Hooe, Alexandria, to Gov. Lee.] June 9 Red Book No. 28 Letter 51

By the latest intelligence the Marquis was at a Place called the Wilderness ab^t 20 Miles from fredericksburgh, Genl Wayne had join'd him & it is supposed he is between 5 & 6000 strong. The Enemy was at Gouchland Court house & their light horse at Charlottesville—& the Governor Council & Assembly had but time to get out of their way. The stores—Records &c. I believe had been moved a little before. The light horse turn'd off from Charlottes Ville towards the forks of James River where it is said our Principal Magazine is—their main Army it is thought would move that way. I fear the Baron Steuben who was with the stores will not be able to defend or move them in time. The Militia turn out very cheerfully but—no Arms. It is supposed the British have from 4 to 500 horse they have been frequently 30 to 40 Miles from their Main Body. By the latest accounts from Genl Green, wch comes thro the Marquis to Genl Weeden he had Capturd 800 Privates & 50 Officers of Rawdens Army, and was in pursuit of the remainder.

[Richard Peters, By order, War office, to Gov. Lee.] June 9 Red Book No. 7 Letter 215

We have been honoured with your Letter of the 1st inst. relative to the Removal of the Convention Troops. The Board had previously sent Orders to Col Wood to remove all the Troops of the Convention from Virginia & Maryland & we expect they are on their March for the State of Massachussetts wherein they are directed to be Stationed

P. S. We are repairing & shall speedily send off three hundred stands of arms of the Maryland Recruits & one thousand for the Militia of your state.

[Henry Schnebely, Washington County, to the Council.] June 9 Red Book No. 27 Letter 92

I have Received your answer of the 23^d of May acording I sent you all the Horseis I have under my care. Neene out the Twelve I Received in Annapolis, one of them wors left beTwen the citty & Mr Spurriers, as I com up the Road I fed him, ordered Mr Spurrier to Take care of if the Hors should Recover, I would be chargeable for the cost, if he should Die I would make satisfaction for the Trubel, my sohn will Inquier as he comes Doune for the horse & allso for the chargis (if any) an other Hors about 5 Days after we com home Died, we have Takin all the care we could, Liffted him 4: 5. Times a Day, to Do No purpose the therd Hors awenting Died about the 10: of March would Never Drive Like the Rest, the Reymaining Neen horsis you will Receive I Expect, with satisfaction, allso one hors with one old satel & Bridle belonging to the conti-

June 9 Red Book No. 27 Letter 92

nentel wich wors Left with me by Leut. David Morgen in our Town said hors wors some weeks after cleint by Captain Price from fridrick Town a small Lively Bay hors wich maks in Noumer 10: I should Take it as a Pleisher to com Downe my selfe, But as my wiffe is in an ill stat of helt, so that I culd not Lieve houm, & there fore Refayned to send my acount or charge for gibing them Horssis until I can com myself; therefore I Request to send me only a Receid for them 10 Horssis & I Hope I shall give further satisfaction to the Honorouble Counsel

N. B. this Day about 10 o'clock all the Prissener from virginas Past Thru this Town, they com over the Rever at the mouth of Connogechick Last evening allsoe, and all the Prisoners from fourt Frederick, will be in Town this Evening & start Next morning—we here by Repourt that the English Returned aginge from hir Purshud Last Sunday a party of vollenteers from Bedfourth County Durned out afther some Indian Near froncks Town fourth, in Nomber 37, 7 of them com in & said all the Rest wher Kiled [60 or 70?] of vollentiers Durnd out yeasterday of Cumberland county some of our Naibpurs

June 10 [See Archives of Maryland, Vol. 45, p. 670]

[Esme Bayly, Somerset County to His Excellency Thomas S. Lee Esqr]

Inclosed you have the proceedings of a General Court Martial against John Brereton for your approbation or disapprobation

June 10 Red Book No. 11 Letter 53

[Jno D. Thompson & Richard T. Earle, Esqr, Queen Anns County]

Yours of the 6th Ins^{t} I have Just received, two days ago I received a Letter from the Governor on the same Subject giving me Directions respecting the Militia holding themselves in Readiness to march Please to assure the Council that I will do all I Possible can to get every thing in readiness. I have reason to believe the Militia of this County will not be backward in doing there duty, I shall be thankfull if the Council would Let me have one or two Boxes of Cartrages one Hundred Cartrage Boxes and some Musquets, the Bayonetts we have are few and the Greater part of them will not fitt the Guns. The Militia of this County Amount to something above 1500.

I received an order on Messrs Emrey & Goldsborough for one Barrell Gun Powder, I received only one Cask weighing 65^{lb} Gross, which I presume is only one half Barrell, the Council will Please Charge me with no more. I shall be allways ready to receive Directions from the Council and will most Chearfully obey them

June 10

[John Bracco, Talbot County, to Gov. Lee.]

I had last night information of a stranger in my neighbourhood who had in his possession a quantity of European Goods for Sale

with which he was bound to Baltimore and knowing it to be my duty to examine all strangers who were under suspicious circumstances I this morning went and examined him respecting his business and destination and received for Answer that he was from St Cruse to Chingoteage in a Schooner belonging to Rudolph & Armitage & after selling her Goods which consisted of Irish linnens to the amount of sixty pieces which are fine Stockings, Silk hand^{s} &c proposed to return by way of Snow Hill I then demanded of him papers or Credentials of some sort to evince the truth of the Account he gave of himself but received for answer that he had none about him having left them at Snow Hill on asking him the name of the Vessel he came in he was at a loss and could not tell this with what I have since heard from Capt Gibson of the Boat by which this comes That he told some persons in his hearing that he bought those linnens in Ireland and paid a Guinea for drawing them a Hundred Miles in that Country makes me suspect that the account he gives of himself is not true and that he may be from the refugees in the Bay or from New York notwithstanding his taking the Oath of Fidelity to the States which I administered to him and gave him a certificate I have therefore thought it necessary to give your Excellency this notice and to caution the Capt of the Boat not to suffer his Goods to be landed untill you had notice in order that some further enquiry should be made concerning the matter if thought necessary. The Mans name as he tells me is James Delahonty and he says he has been frequently in Virginia and hath some property there. I hope Your Excellency will excuse this Trouble June 10

[John Ross Key, Road to Georgetown, to Gov. Lee.] June 10 Red Book No. 30 Letter 89

I have the Honor and Satisfaction To inform your Excellency that the Fred^{k} County Troops of Horse under my command are now on their Rout to George Town, where I expect to arrive this Evening.

We are tolerably well mounted and Equipped and with Pleasure I assure you I find a Desire and Anxiety prevails among the Men that compose the Troop to render every service in their Power to their country and wish to join the acting Men should your Excellency think it necessary

[Jos^{a} Beall, Malbro to His Excell^{y} Thomas Sim Lee Esqr] June 11
(p^{r} Coll^{l} Lyles)

I have issued Orders agreeable to yours of the 9th instant, And Expect the Officers & men ordered will, Rendezvos at Mr Diggses at the mouth of Piscatoway. But am afraid it will be out of my power to procure Arms in this County to Equip 400 men. Ammunition, and Cartridge paper will be wanted, If there is any to be had from the Magezen, and cannot be otherwise contributed, I would send some Wagons up for arms & Every other Necessary

June 11 that can be had from thence, pray let me know whether, or what Quantity of Liquor is to be furnished to the men, and by Whome

P. S. I have just been informed that the force in potomack, is but triffilling, shuld that be the Case, the sooner your last Orders are countermanded the better, as it would not only save a Considerable Expence, but Ease the people of a great deal of unnecessary Trouble.

June 11
Red Book
No. 23
Letter 114

[Samuel Sharp, Baltimore Town, to The Honble Mathew Tilghman]
(p^r Groves)

I have sent you by Groves two pair Swivells and an Ord^r on Capt Travers for two pair that are on board Traver's Schooner now at Kingstown, these are the only Swivells I have been able to meet with, I have not as yet got any Shott, If I meet with any, will bring them over in a day or two.

I only got here yesterday, have not as yet waited on Mr Carroll, got Mr Levy to forward Miss Nancys Lett^r and Bundle this Morning, Mr Carroll is now at Annapolis Mrs Carroll is well.

The only news I have heard is that the Enemys fleet is gone up the Potomack suppos'd for Alexandria. The Militia Horse and foot Soldiers from this Town march in a day or two.

I have sent a Coil Bolt rope

June 11

[Chas Blake, Corsica to His Excel: Thos Sim Lee Esqr]

I rec^d y^r Excel^cys letter enclosing the Law for procuring Soldiers cloathing; I have been to all the Shops in the County the only places where any such Articles are to be had I have got 41 yds of coarse frizes the selling price 3 bus: of Wheat p^r yd 21 yds of Coating @ nine bus: pr yd. the selling price and Mr Hutchings talks of a dollar a bushel for wheat 3 Indian blanketts at 8 bus: each four suts at ten shillings hard each and 6 yards of Coarse linnen at 5 shillings very wide the Shops were very empty no shoes or stockings. Col^o Hollingsworth has ordered provisions to be lodged at the head of Corsica; the place appointed by the Com: of the Tax for the reception of Wheat. But Mr Nicolson will not permitt the Publick Stores to be carried thro' his land the grainry stands near the place where Hoppers old Tob^o Warehouse stood and tho an Inspection House there was never a road laid out to it, so says Mr Nicolson, and tho I understand there is a late Law for rebuilding the Warehouse the road has been neglected. I have rented the Grainry as directed and the publick Stores cannot be carried to it, only the Wheat which is mention'd in the law. It is the only place on Corsica fitt to receive the Stores, I do not chuse without y^r orders to subject myself to a suit; however if your Ex: thinks proper to order it and have it tried the State paying all costs as it is on that acc^t I will carry them down. I shall expect an answer till I gett one I cannot store any provisions there.

[John Smith Brookes, Upper Marlbro, to The Honble The Governor & Council.] (Favour of D. Craufurd Esqr) June 11

I Received your letter of the 9th instant giving me directions for the purchase and seizure of one hundred Beef Cattle. You refer me to an Act of the Assembly for particular directions, which act you have omitted to enclose. The present is therefore to request you will forward me the act by the very first conveyance, as I cannot well set about the business without it. I also beg you will give me some directions how, and in what manner, I am to ascertain the Value of each Beef; whether by the pound, or the gross, if by the pound, an injustice will certainly arise to the People, and it is to be observed, that notwithstanding the Beef is far from being fall, yet the holders will Expect as much as if they realy were, because no expence is to attend there being made so; therefore if I am to fix the price by the pound, respect ought to be had to what they would weigh when good Beef. I Pray you to give me your opinion upon the matter and I will loose no time in having the business effected, as far as the nature of the case will admit. I could have wished you had Pointed out, what parts of the County you considered most immediately subject to the Enemys Ravages. If I am to take the Beef generally, I apprehend no difficulty will attend the number your mention being had, but if I am confined to the shores, I fear the q^{ty} cannot be got

I shall be under the necessity of employing drivers, in such cases certificates will not answer; I shall therefore be much obliged, if you can furnish me with a small sum of Money. I have suffered much for the noncompliance of some money contracts which I have been unavoidably obliged to make, and cannot well make my returns to you without a settlement of their demands, as the accounts stand yet unsettled.

I have your favour of the 5th and have paid due regard to the contents. I shall be much obliged, for an order on Mr Rozier for the Barrels I wrote to you about—if you think proper to let me have them.

[John Smith Brookes, U. Marlbro, to The Honb^{le} The Governor & Council.] (By Col^{o} Lyles) June 11

The Lieutenant of the County informs me that a number of the Militia will rendevous at Mr Digges on Potomack River, and it will be necessary for me to make the proper provision for them. I am at a loss how to act, as not having any orders from you on the Subject—some erregularitys was committed at their last collection & I shall be glad to receive your full instruction upon this subject tis expected they will be furnished with Rum or rather whisky, and the Commissary is called upon I have no orders from you for such a procedure and cannot think of acting without such—therefore I pray you will not omit to write me fully by the return of Maj^{r} Lyles

I hope to receive your answer to the letter I wrote this day—by Mr Crawford

June 11
Red Book
No. 5
Letter 107

[Dan of St Thos Jenifer and Dan'l Carroll, Philadelphia, to the Honble President of the Senate and the Hon'ble Speaker of the Ho. Del.]

We have the honor to inclose a Letter from his Excellency the Commander in chief which we received last night, and which you will be pleased to lay before the respective branches of the Legislature over whom you preside

We have the honor to be with the highest regard and esteem

June 11
Red Book
No. 5
Letter 108

[G^o Washington, New Windsor, to Dan'l of St. Thomas Jenifer and Dan'l Carroll, Esquires.]

I was this day honored with your favor of the 3^d instant. I very sensibly feel not only for the danger to which the states immediately invaded are exposed, but for the general bad consequences which may ensue, if the enemy are permitted, at this time, to gain and hold possession of a part of our Country, and I have been endeavouring to concert such plans with our Allies, as I hope will eventually frustrate the projects which the enemy seem to have in view. Nothing but an adherence to regular plans and systems can ultimately be attended with salutary effects, and I flatter myself the issue of those now in contemplation will justify the observation.

I have desired the Executives of the States of Pennsylvania, Delaware and Maryland to send the Corps of Infantry—Artillery and Cavalry, requested by the Resolution of the 31st of May, to the Head Quarters of the Army in Virginia or in Maryland (should the enemy have advanced into that state) as fast as they are raised and equipped I cannot promise any further assistance as to Arms and Accoutrements, having already forwarded to the Southward all that could possibly be spared of those on hand.

The danger to which letters are exposed upon the communication between this and Philadelphia, renders it unadvisable to enter into details upon paper, but I beg you to be assured, that the slender means, with which I am yet furnished, shall be directed to the best of my Abilities, to the general good. To those who are experiencing the calamities of War, all relief only in prospect seems very far off, but I trust the enemy will in the end repent the hasty advance which they are now making.

I have the honor to be with very great Respect and Esteem Gentlemen y^r most ob^t Servant

June 12
Red Book
No. 26
Letter 106

[Petition of Samuel Fowler To the honorable Governor and Council]

Please your honour I Samuel fowler has made application to Col. Adams I Being not fit for the service which I have Been Draft^d in a Class—which Please your honour I am a poor man Continuly Subject to the Rumack^t pains I have try^d to Get A man in my place which I Cant Get no man.

[H. Hollingsworth, Head of Elk, to His Excellency Thomas Sim Lee Esqr. In Council.]

June 12
Red Book
No. 30
Letter 85

Last night I arrived at this place and find the inclosed letter from Mr Saml Smith State Agent with your order Inclosed, for fifteen hundred Barrels of Flour—as this order ought to be executed with the utmost dispatch, and many difficulties appears to operate against it, I have taken the Liberty of pointing them out to your Excellency & Honours as tis by this only that you can be properly informed or I directed, the quantity of flour is 1500 Barrels which from the best account I can collect is one thousand Barrels more then I have a prospect of procuring from the Eastern shore on this side of Harvest Mr Smith mentions his being willing to put up with two hundred B^bls^ only of superfine, it does not appear the least probable, that half that quantity can be had, as almost all the Wheat collected is ground down and Bolted according to your former directions, the flour and Midling pack'd together for the use of the Army, therefore will not bear inspection in Philad^a^ tis also weighed and Invoiced into short hundreds and most of it moved from the Mills, and of course cant be bolted over again, and where it can, the expence will be very considerable. I am sorry thus to point out difficultys in executing your orders on a matter so very essential to the Cloathing of our past army, though they are not agravated in the least, and difficult as they appear I shall with cheerfullness undertake to Execute them with your further advise and assistance, though I see no prospect of doing it unless a quantity of wheat could be sent me from Hartford County, where I understand there is great quantitys collected, with us in Cecil there was very little made last year and less collected in Kent there is collected 2765 Bushels of wheat tis all ground and mostly on its way to this place except what has been sent to Duck Creek, Appoquinemy and consumed by the Militia and new recruits, in Queen Anns County the Collection is considerable, have received 211 B^bles^ flour and sent to Duck Creek about three hundred remains there all ready part of which I had ordered with the Pork to your City and Baltimore, (as the Schooner takes in the Pork contedious to the flour) this flour is ground bolted and weighed according to your former Instructions, there is at Seths Mill in Caroline County about 600 Bushels of wheat that was brought out of Dorset County, but this is out of the district that your Honours have laid out for the furnishing this flour, and suppose it is all Manufactured according to your former Instructions the 613 Bus. wheat received from Queen Anns is the better half Manufactured into flour for the Army according to your former directions (so that on the whole) I have neither superfine nor common that will bare Inspection nor do I see a possibility of getting the quantity to fill your order, unless from Harford County where part of the wheat is not yet Manufactured (which if it cant be done in that County) the wheat being sent here could be

June 12
Red Book
No. 30
Letter 85

immediately done, without taking it a Mile out of the Common road to Market—if the flour ground down with the Midlings in it will do for Mr Smith I can furnish him with about five hundred Bbls in two weeks, if not I have no prospect of filling his request on this side Harvest, unless furnished with the wheat from elsewhere.

I this day waited on the Commissioners of Cecil to know what collections had been made in Money, that I might with the more propriety Insist on the commissarys compleating the remainder in the Specific way, supposeing by that to be able to determine what could be done in this County, but find full returns have not been made them by the collectors of the Tax, so that I am here disappointed. the commissioners inform me that as the collectors have but two ꝑ Ct for collecting in the specific way, and four for the other, they give that the preference,

I wait with impatience your further orders, and from the present difficulties, am Imbolden'd to offer to your Excellency and Honours a few hints which have occured to me, regarding the Collecting Manufacturing and forwarding the flour and wheat, and also the collecting Butchering curing and forwarding provisions of the Meat kind which I shall do myself the Honour to communicate in my next,

P. S. by the law each Commissary is to collect and forward the specific supply of His county & to make returns monthly, if this was done I could know exactly what I could do, but as I am now to seek returns and in many cases forward the provisions, it throws me under difficulties and Great Imbarisments, I must therefore Intreat that as soon as possible a sum of money be sent me to Enable me to Execute your orders in forwarding the flour to this place.

June 12
Red Book
No. 5
Letter 72

[Dan'l of St. Thos Jenifer and Dan'l Carroll, Philad'a to His Excellency T. S. Lee.]

Your Excellencys Letters of the 2d & 4th Instt came to hand last night

If arms are to be had in Philadelphia for Flour, or Tobacco, we shall endeavor to contract for them on behalf of the State. We wish that you had mentioned the time and place of delivery of these Articles; essentials we apprehend necessary to be known before any person will engage to make a Contract with us.

Had we experienced the most partial supply of Money, it would have been of Service. Perhaps the intended scheme of raising money from Tobacco may prove as abortive to us as that of Flour. We have been reduced to the humiliating circumstance of attempting to borrow without success. If the Tobo that Mr Key is to transport, lies on Potomack, we cannot hope for any relief from it, as we shall be under the necessity of decamping before he can get it to this place.

Congress hitherto, has refused to allow the Shipping of Flour for the purpose of paying Debts contracted by our officers at New York.

The Board of War have wrote to the General to inform them if Clinton will allow us to Ship Tobacco for that purpose. As soon as they receive an Answer we shall transmit to you the result June 12 Red Book No. 5 Letter 72

[Dan'l of St. Thos Jenifer and Dan'l Carroll, Philadelphia, to Gov. Lee.] June 12 Red Book No. 5 Letter 106

We had the honor to receive y^r^ favor of enclosing a resolve of the Genl Assembly. The Board of War orderd Co^l^ Wood the 26 Ul^o^ to remove the Convention Troops from Maryland & Virginia without delay & we expected this information had been transmitted to you officially.

As it is intended we shall be supplied with money from the proceeds of some of the flour directed to be sent to Delaware & some part of it must lay convenient for sale immediately, the dificulties we are under urge us to request you will favor us with an order on the person charged with the disposal of it, & we flatter ourselves this will be done by next Post, and to a sufficient amount to answer our purposes.

[Josiah Polk, Salisbury, to The Honb^e^ Matthew Tilghman, Esq, President of ye Special Council, Talbot County] June 12

From a very severe parixism of the Gout I am incapable of attending the Council on Wednesday and cannot determine when I shall be able to attend. Capt Walley makes a request of a supply of three hundred yards of Canvas of two feet width and if of greater or less width more or less Canvas proportionably, fifteen pound of twine, four quire Cartridge paper, and two dozen Sail needles. The Barge Protector in Worcester is almost finished, think it necessary Commissions should be immediately applied for. Capt Walley recommends Captain Joseph Handy the Bearer hereof as his first Lieutenant I approve of his choice and think the Gentleman adequate to that trust. The Gentlemen Superintendants of the Virginia Galleys propose selling part of the Tackle and Apparel at publick sale; would wish Capt Walley receive instructions to purchase such Articles as the Barge stands in immediate want of. Those Gentlemen seem disposed to lend some other Articles which are not for sale provided they could be assured by Council of having them replaced or paid for in case of loss. It will be necessary Capt Walley be instructed relative the mode of inrolling the Men, what encouragement will be given and the number of men to be enlisted. He thinks eighty men will do, though she could carry a hundred.

[Thos. Price, Frederick Town, to the Honourable The Governor and Council.] June 12

Inclosed you have a return of provisions I have collected in this County in the month of May last—there may be some small errors in the part delivered not having an opportunity of setling with M^r^

June 12 Murdock for the provision furnished General Wains Division but if any will correct it in my next Return. On receiving your order to procure and supply the Convention Troops who luckily for us took the Upper Road, and an application from the Lieutenant of the County to furnish provisions for the Militia ordered to march I advertized that provision would certainly be seized if a sufficient quantity was not brought in immediately at the following prices which I believe will have the desired effect as it is daily coming in in small quantities especially mutton for Beef 45/ ꝑ Hundred. Bacon 12^{d} ꝑ lb. and for fat Sheep 6 pence ꝑ pound estimated and delivered Alive. This article I have some Doubts whether I am justifiable in by Law, but I hope the pressing necessity and the suitableness of Mutton for this time of the year will Justify me with your [damaged] I have employed some proper persons in different parts of the County to collect the articles above and expect I shall be able to furnish our Militia and troops passing through this Town if you mean I should do so. But as this Town is immediately on the Rout to and from the Southern Army you may think it necessary to have it an Established Post—if not, I hope I shall be allowed an Assistant to Issue provisions, for at this time I do the Business that employed five or Six hands untill very lately. A Quarter Master is absolutely necessary here as Expresses are frequently brought to this place to be forwarded on. You will be pleased to excuse me for the liberty I have taken in mentioning of these matters.

June 13 [Thos How Ridgate, Portobacco, to His Excellency the Governor and Council]

I have about 19 doz of English felt Hatts and 3 dox. of Castors, a small quantity of coarse Linnen and perhaps some other articles that may suit for Cloathing for our Army which I am ready to furnish you with for Tobacco of the present Inspection in this County on the terms I am now setting them quoted below, allowing four State dollars ꝑ C^{r} for Tobacco at which price I can purchase any quantity in this neighbourhood. Your answer by the Bearer Mr John Beall Turner will oblige

felts N 1— 4 state drs. each
2— 6 d°
3— 7½ d°
4— 8 d°
5— 9½ d°
6—12 d°
7—13 d°
8—15 d°

Castors. N 1—24 St. drs each
2—27 d°
3—30 d°
4—35 d°

Good Shirting Linnen y^{d} w^{d} 8 St. Drs. ꝑ yd.

[Thos Beall of Geo for T. Richardson, Esqr, Geo. Town to His Excellency Thos. S. Lee Esqr] (favd by Collo W. Deakins, Junr) June 13

I am almost out of flesh Provisions & if the Militia Continues here much longer shall be much Obliged to you to point a mode to Procure the same; Your Ansr by first oppty will much Oblige

P. S. I have not one shilling of Money to defray any Expences that must Acrue on this Business T. B. for T. R.

[William Clagett, to His Excy, Thomas Sim Lee Esqr] June 13
(By Mr. Lansdale)

State of Maryland Dr

To Sundry Goods purchased by William Clagett from the following Gentlemen for which they are to receive the money agreeable to the prices assertained in the accounts, and for which the said Clagett has pass'd his certificates Viz:

Andrew Wales at Bladensburgh

June 11th	17 yds Duffle	a 15/.	£12..15..0	
	28 Felt Hatts	10/.	14.. 0..0	
				26..15

Singleton Wootton at Queen Ann

June 11.	150½ yds Oznaburgs	3/	22..11.. 6	
	67½ yds Jermon Dowlass	6/3	21.. 1..10½	
				43..13.. 4½

Chisr Lowndes at Bladensburgh

June 11.	41 ꝑ mens Shoes	8/.	16..8..0	
				16.. 8.. 0

Joseph Walker at Marlbro

June 11.	1 ꝑs Oznaburgs No 1	135 yds		
	1 ꝑs ditto 2	91¼		
	1 ꝑs ditto 3	81¼		
		307½ @ 3/.	46..2..6.	
				46.. 2.. 6

Captn John Mitchell 7 Bolts Heavy Duck at Marlbro 5 ditto at Mr Newtons 12 Bolts	£12..10.	150..0..0	
6 ꝑs Light Duck at Mr Newtons	£12..10..0,	75..0..0	
			225.. 0.. 0
			357..18..10½

1781 State of Maryland Dr

To Sundry Goods Seized from the following Gentlemen by William Clagett, the price of which are to be Assertained by the Hon. The Governor and Council by the Samples now sent them, agreeable to the said Clagetts certificates.

June 11th John Smith Brookes & Company
4 ps Oznaburgs containing 543 yds.
2 ps 4/4 Rusha Sheeting 76¾ yds
131 ps Shoes at Marlboro } 155 ps
24 p ditto Nottingham }
June 12th Alexander Contee at Nottinghame
1 ps ½ Ell Brown Drugget 35½ yds
1 ps ½ yd Brown Serge 40¼ yds
11 Mens Course Castor Hatts

Your appointment to me of the 5th Instant came to hand last Friday evening, and agreeable thereto I have been to every place that has Goods for sale in the County; The forgoing is an account of the Articles that I have taken, those Goods which the price are not affixd to, Mr Charles Lansdale will deliver you samples of them, some of which are inclosed with copys of my certificates. The Goods lays at the different places where taken, and I shall not collect them together untill your further orders, I think the sooner they are got together the better, as from their laying at so many different places perhaps some of them may get lost. These are all the Goods which comes within your instructions in this County, except a few Linens and felt Hatts which my Brother Thomas Clagett & Co has, and which he inform'd me that he intended to offer to you, if you should not agree with him, and are in want of them, I shall take them agreeable to the Late Law. Your order respecting the Tin Kettles came to hand this day, and shall wait on the Gentlemen to morrow for them, you may expect to receive the Kettles by Saturday evening.

June 13 Red Book No. 18 Letter No. 141 [Chris'r Edelen, Frederick Town to His Excellency Thos Sim Lee Esqr.] (Favoured by Alex. C. Hanson, Esq.)

I have purchased & taken into my Posession since my Appointment, two hundred and Eighty five yards woolen Cloth of different sorts Eight hundred & twenty five yards linen, twenty one blanketts & twenty pair of Shoes. I have some hopes in A few days I shall be able to procure more Goods when done will inform you, in the mean time shall wait your orders what's to be done with those I have by me whither to be made up, and in what.

NB. 81¾ yds. of the above Cloth is very white and good

June 13 [David Hopkins, Capt. 4th regt. Lt. Dragoons, Annapolis, to His Excellency, Governor Lee]

Being informed that your excellency with the Council have the appointment of the officers to command the corps of Cavalry to be

raised in this State. I humbly request the command or part of said horse, my presumption is on having served near five years as Captain in the 4th regt Light Dragoons and now out of employ, said regt having only about one Sixth of its compliment of horses, two thirds of the officers are now Idle June 13

I wish the command, prefering an active life and rendering my Country Service

[Dan'l Jenifer, Portobacco, to Gov. Lee.]

June 13
Red Book
No. 22
Letter 15

I have not as yet received any horses (tho' promised a great many) owing to the Minds of the people being poisoned with regard to the validity of the Certificates to be given for them—However as I have a suffi no marked down, Your Excy may expect to hear that the Quota for this County will by the last of next week be compleated; as I set out this day for seizing Many people who had promised to bring their horses to Portº yesterday flew the way owing to the above cause of doubting the Credit of the Certificates to be given for them. Mr Ridgate from his own Acct has a large quantity of Goods fit for the Soldiers. (Especially hats) But upon the Alarm He had packt them up and I believe moved the Greatest part out of Town I can not get at them except a few hats; He says that he will treat with your Excellency and the Council for all the Articles he has provided you will engage to pay him tobacco. But that he cannot think of taking Certificates as they will not (he says) answer his purpose of going to Market &ca He hath promised not to dispose of any of the Articles. Therefore I shall forbear to take adversary measures 'till I have the honor of hearing from Annapolis which I hope will be in a few days

Mr Beale Turner upon proper Examination can disclose where the Goods of Mr Ridgate are

The thirty Sail of Vessels with which your Excy was alarmed are dwinelled to a single flag of Truce Ship

[Certificate relating to James Price a draught]

June 13
Blue Book
No. 4
Letter 53

Maryland ss.

We hereby Certify that James Price one of the Draughted men of this County is at this time and has been for some time back incapable of Performing Military Duty and am thorughly Convinc'd he is by no means Capable of turning out to Camp as a Draught to Continue there under Duty for the term of time mention'd in the act of Assembly, having had his Collar bones broken in sundry Places, which beyond a doubt must render him very incapable of the Duty aforesaid.

Sign'd by
Lewis Lattermann

June 13 [Baruch Williams, Bohemia, to James Brice Esqr, presid^{t} of the Honble Council, Annapolis.]

On the Eighth of Septr last I received ten Tobacco Notes inclosed in a letter of the 21st of August, to sell, to Enable me to make Purchases a Copy of one is now sent for the Governor & Council's directions it has been produced to the Treasurer by the Collector of this County and he refused taking it, owing I presume from some Deficiency in the recording of it. I received yours of the 5th of June yesterday, about Cloathing. I will do all I can but am fearful I shall make but little out of some orders about the Inclosed Copy (the Original of which the Collector received in Taxes & has in his Possession)

NB I suppose I need not give a hint that money is necessary for purchasing the Cloathing but at any rate this will serve as one

June 14
Red Book
No. 27
Letter 94

[Thos Smyth, Ju^{r}, Kent County to The Hono^{ble} James Brice Esqr Presid^{t} of the Council Annapolis] (Via Rock Hall)

I did not receive the appointments with which the Council have honor'd me, 'till yesterday and take the first opportunity of informing them that I am obliged to decline serving under it. I am in a very bad state of health, and have as much to do as I can possibly attend to, in collecting the Taxes of this County. As it is not in my power to do the duty of the Commission effectually, I hope the Council will not be displeas'd at my declining to accept it.

June 14

[William Clagett, Piscataway to Governor Lee]

Messrs Bowie's Kettles will not in my opinion answer for the purpose you want them, they have but very few that will hold 1¼ Gallons, therefore I have declined sending them up.

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Red Book
No. 30
Letter 84

[H. Hollingsworth, Head of Elk, to His Excellency, Thomas Sim Lee, Esqr in Council.]

And please Your Excellency & Honours The many difficulties experienced in the collecting Manufacturing and forwarding the Specific supplys of the Eastern Shore of this State, at this time when the use of the Bay is cut off from us, or at least in great measure rendered unsafe, Imboldens me to offer a few hints which have occured to me regarding it, not that I think myself competent to direct (more then others) but that experience has taught me that which others were they in my situation would perhaps have seen, and pointed out much sooner my letter of the twelfth, with that to Major Smith which I have requested him to lay before your Excellency & Honours which you are at Liberty to lay before the Honourable House of Delegates, will I fear point out too evident the Inconvenience that arises from the Manufacturing all the wheat at so great a distance from the place it is wanted, and at Mills not properly pre-

pared for making it into the best of flour (if necessary) this I conceive will more evidently appear when it is considered that at Least one half the wheat on the Eastern shore grows, (and is threshed and clean'd) within two Miles of some Landing, which I presume could be forwarded occasionally by Water (when safe opportunitys offered) to the Head of the Bay, where it would be much more out of the way of the Enemy, and where there are plenty of Mills of the best, plenty of water at all seasons, that could Manufacture it to any degree of fineness, and where Casks, waggons, and every other matter or thing necessary, can alway be had to forward it, on the shortest notice to where it may be wanted; leaveing that which grow more interior, to be Manufactured by the best Mills in the County and neighbourhood of its groath, And the collecting curing and forwarding the provisions of the Meat kind, is attended with as many inconveniences and extraordinary expences, as that of the wheat and flour, though in my opinion much easier remidyed, as each and every creature (be it Cattle or Swine) are able to carry themselves to, or near Market, or the place they are wanted at, and the price of Slaughtering Salting packing & coopering the same; with this differance only, that the coopering or making Casks would be much better done were it all done at or near one place, (than at many) and as I conceive some where near the Head of the Bay would be the most convenient place, it is supposed the workmen are in general much better there then below, but should there not be the odds, I am supposing when we consider that the one is to be waggoned (or shalloped) from one to two hundred Miles and perhaps three or four times handled, the casks abused, the pickles leaked out and exposed to the sun (the other kept in a close house or cellar) untill wanted, and then at hand for use, or at least it is known where it is and ready for Transportation without the Extra expence of waggonage, danger of Leaking the pickle, or any other abuse, it may be argued in oposition to what I have said, that should large Magazines of provisions be made at any one place it may tempt the Enemy to come and destroy it, which I admit, but this can be provided against by sending it, ten or twenty Miles assunder, in proper deposits, without moveing it one Mile from the common rout where it will be wanted, another object which I think worthy of your notice is, the Hides of the Cattle which in this State has been much neglected, though very essensially necessary for the supplying the Army, several quantitys of Leather that I forwarded to Philadelphia from this State, while acted I as D. Q. M. G[l] convinces me that we either dont know how to Tan, Curry, and clean Leather, or have not conveniences or materials (or perhaps want both) I have seen several parcels of Leather sent on that was not worth half as much as the green Hides it was made of, and the complaints from the receivers, and leather cutters, will Justify what I am saying as they were general,

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I would not be understood to censure any particular person (far be it from me) I verily believe that the want of knowledge, workmen conveniences, and materials were the principle cause of those abuses in the Leather, as that of coopers, good seasoned Staves, headings (and hoops) as in the Casks and the want of Teams in the carriage, and so in each case; as I have been so free in pointing out faults there is no doubt but some general plan will be expected from me to remedy them.

The plan I propose is that all the Wheat that lays adjacent to the water be collected into Grainerys near to navigable Creeks and the Rivers, and forward to the Head of the Bay, by craft as often as the Enemys Cruisers will permit, and there deposited into good grainerys and Mills, that can always Manufacture it into any sort of Flour, as occasion may require, and where the offall will be convenient for Forage or the feeding of Cattle, (should any be brought up unfit for Slaughter) that at least three fourths of the Beef and pork be taken in, in Specific Supply alive, and be driven at the Head of the Bay on foot, and there slaughtered and cured, where every necessary convenience and material may be had, where the provisions will be convenient to where they are wanted, where the Hides may be properly taken care of and made into good Leather for the use of the Army, where the whole may be found at any time when call'd for, and where reports may be always had of the quantity and quality on hand, I acknowledge myself pretty well worn out in the service, and am not fond of going into any new scene of Action, but if the plan laid down can be adopted (or something Similar (and no other person fiter for the task be proposed) I will undertake it; and to convince your Excellency and Honours that I am no other way Interested in this Scheme, than an Individual (as one of the community at Large) I will do the Business of Eastern shore in the way I have proposed (for the same Sallery) that the General Assembly lately appointed to me, and will be accountable for the curing the provisions Taning the hides into good Leather, and in short superintend the whole, rather than do it in the loose way we are now going on, providing I am enabled to procure casks, Salt, and every other necessary in time, and that the cattle and Hoggs be sent me fat and Corn or other grain or Forage, be provided to keep them so, while slaughtering and provision made to pay all workmen, laybourers and other necessary Expences, my own travelling expences Included. if what I have here proposed is thought worthy of the notice of your Excell^y & Honours, you are at Liberty to lay it before the General Assembly, and rest assured that I have no other motive for making this proposial, then that of doing business better, with less expence to the State, and to have the provisions always convenient to where they are wanted and ready when called for

[Rt. F. Hooe, Alex[a], to Gov. Lee.]

June 14
Red Book
No. 28
Letter 52

I had the Honor of receiving Your Excellency's Letter of the 13th last night. The report of the Arrival of a french fleet, and Your hopes of confirming it soon, gives us high spirits here—and I beg that you will be pleased to be assured that, I hold myself under the greatest obligation for the interesting news you have been so kind as to Communicate from time to time. I shall continue as I ever have done, to take a Pleasure in giving you every information in my power of the movements, and Transactions, of the Southern Armies. There being various reports about the Vessells in our River, & having had certain intelligence Yesterday that a ship was standing up the River, & would be up as high as this Town, this Morn[g] if she was bound here, & being by some called a flag Ship, & by others said to be a fore runner from the Enemy's fleet. I thought it prudent to detain Your Excellency's express rider 'till I could give you a certain Account of that Vessell. She is most certainly a Flagg Ship & by information from our County Lieut. may be expected here in a few hours. The other Vessells below are nothing more than some Craft getting off & bringing up a new Brig. Col[o]. Tupper from the Marquis's Camp on Sunday last tells us that, the Enemy was by their latest intelligence, at the Point of Forks on James River—supposed to be ab[t] 5000 Strong, including horsemen—they have now ab[t] 1000 horse—at Present it is supposed their first object is our stores, some of w[ch] they destroyed at Charlotte-Ville, that their next view was to intercept the Prisoners under Washington, March[g] from South Carolina. That 96 and another small Part was still in Possession of the Enemy, but invested by our Army. That the Marquis had began his March towards the Enemy that his front was within 25 Miles of the Enemy's rear that he had sent off his Baggage, that he had a respectable body of Militia, that every movement indicated an attack on the part of the Marquis the moment he gets up with Cornwallis. Baron Stueben with the stores was going up James River in Boats—the light horse had given him some fires, but all was safe in that quarter when they heard last. Gen[l] Green, Col[o] Tupper seems to think is Strong. Morgan has unlimitted Powers to raise a Thousand Volunteer horse & foot. Blank Commissions has been sent him by the Assembly to fill up at discretion—he succeeds very well it is said. He has killed some of the Tories in Hampshire disarmed others & quieted the late insurrection. Our Militia turn out cheerfully but we want Musquets & horse accoutrements. I cannot hear of a Man that has Joined the Enemy from this State—they have made Prisoners of several—the negros do not run to them in such numbers as was fear'd but they take many that are valuable against their inclination

[Sam. Huntington, President, Philadelphia, to Gov. Lee.]

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Red Book
No. 8
Letter 13

Your Excellency will receive enclosed a Resolve of Congress of the 12th Instant, among other Matters, earnestly recommending to

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the State of Maryland to raise & accoutre two Troops of Militia Horse properly officered, including those called for by the Act of 31st of May, and send them forward with all possible Expedition to the Southern Army, to serve three Months after they join the Army.

It is hoped that the present Situation of Affairs in Virginia will excite the most vigorous Exertions in Compliance with this recommendation.

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No. 27
Letter 93

[Sam. Smith, Balt., to Gov. Lee.] (favor'd by Coll Adams)

I Have the Honor to address your Excelly in answer to a Letter from the Hon. Mr Brice, since which I Have not been favor'd with any Commands from your Hon. Board, Coll Adams applied yesterday, for one Marquee, 8 Horsemens & 76 Common Tents, & requested me with verbal directions from you to provide proper Linen, which I Have nearly done & deliver'd to Mr Poe Quarter Master. whose Business it is & who undertakes to have them made Immy I request a Line of approbation from your Board, or an order for such quantity of Linen as may be necessary for the above purposes. And as this with some Extra acco^t were not Estimated in my Demands, I Have directed Mr John Muir to apply for 100 Hhds Tobacco. I shall be glad to know whether I am to obey Gen. Smallwoods orders on my Department in future.

Flour comes in very slow, Mr Hollingsworth being at Anapolis disappoints my Business much. Not being able to furnish Coll. Nicholson's Troops with swords I dispatch'd a Light Waggon which I expect will be back this Morning for them & other Articles not obtainable here—am I to have any direction over the sales of Tobacco to be forwarded by Mr Key. If I am supplied there will be no occasion for seizures, it Serves but to sour the Minds of our best friends, I can purchase Cloths for 300 Coats above the Complement order'd, shall they be secur'd & prepar'd for the Troops now at Camp. It obliges me to act at Disadvantage receiving momentary orders, such as this for Tents. I could do more Justice to the State Had I more Time given.

June 16
Blue Book
No. 4
Letter 15

[The Petition of Thomas Pickerel of Charles County To his Excellency Thos Sim Lee Esqr and the Honourable Council]

Most humbly sheweth.

That your Petitioner was draughted on Monday the 11th Inst to serve as a Regular Soldier to the 10th of December 1781

Your Petitioner is therefore under the Necessity of Shewing your Excellency & Honours that he [h]as been Subject to a Grievous Complaint in his Breast for several years past, for remedy of which he as been under the hands of Docr Gustavus R. Brown these two years past, as will appear by the Doctors Certificate.

Your Petitioner further begs Leave to shew that he was Draughted in the month of June 1778 but being then subject to the same Complaint was discharged by the Court of Appeals appointed by Law to enquire into and Determine such Cases—shall therefore submit it to your Great Judgment whether a person who has been In a declining State for several years and Weakening every day can be fit for the service of his Country. And therefore Prays you would take the matter into Consideration and Grant such relief as in your Great wisdom shall seem meet—and your Petitioner as in duty Bound will Ever Pray. June 16 Blue Book No. 4 Letter 15

June 12th 1781

Thomas Pickerel hath been subject to a complaint in the Breast for two years, which very often terminates in Consumption, and I am of opinion that the fatigues incident to a military life are such as he will never be able to bear, but at the extreme hazzard of Life

I am Sir

Yr very obt Servt

G. R. Brown

To Coll Francis Ware. Blue Book No. 4 Letter 16

We the Subscribers all of Charles County in the State of Maryland being well acquainted with a certain Thomas Pickerel of said County do certify that the said Thomas Pickerel hath Complain'd of having a very great pain in his Breast for a very long time, that the said Pickerel is of a weak Constitution, not able to go thro' hard Labour, much more the fatigues of Marching witness our hands this 16th day of June 1781.

Jacob Ware	Fras Sewall	Raphael Tear
Thos Hopewell	Smith Hawkins	Francis Tiar
Jno Hopewell	Joseph Dixson	Joseph Tiar
Notly Lucket	Isaac Lattimore	Wm B. Smoot
Jno M. Crismond	William Tear Jur.	John Cox
Frans Ware	Isaac Latemore	Walter Hanson Sr
Wm King	Hugh Cox	Wm B. Dodson
F. H. Phillips	John Dodson	

[Richd Barnes, Leod Town to His Excellency Thos Sim Lee, Esqr] June 16

On my return to this County I found that a small Ship under a Flag was near Blackistons Island (since which she has proceeded up Potowmack) and a six and thirty gun Frigate, with two schooners, laying at the mouth of St Marys River, where they had been for several days, and have ever since continued without ever attempting to land, but on St Georges Island, which they have regularly done every day. On the 13th a Brig with two Shooners appeared off the mouth of Clements Bay, and landed two barges loaded with men at Mr Harbert Blackestons House, which they burned and carryed

June 16 Blackeston with them, where he has continued. The Brig and Shooners having one to the mouth of Nomany, where they have been seen to land from this side Potomack. The object these Vessels have in view, further than plundering &c. I am apprehensive, is to git information, of our situation, before the arrival of the force bound to Potomack which we were informed of before I left Annapolis. I have just rec^{d} directions from the Council for the removal of the Tob^{o} in the Ware houses all of which I shall endeavour to have removed except that in Chaptico Warehouse, which is nearly as secure, as any place we can move it to

June 16 [Aquila Giles, Mount Felix, to Governor Lee.]

I must beg leave to trouble your Excellency with a line or two in favour of Mr Davis and Mr Luckett, two Gentlemen that were Lieutenants in Col^{o} Rawlings reg^{t} taken at Fort Washington & suffered a four years tedious captivity on Long Island two years of the time, I lived in the same disagreeable situation—& I think I can with truth say they merit an attention from their Country. They solicited me to mention them to your Excellency for appointments in the Corps of Horse to be raised by this State; I am conscious you will if you can with propriety take notice of them. Permit me to again mention to your Excellency, my desire of having a command in the Horse. There is no likelihood of Genl St. Clair (to whom I am an Aid de Camp) taking the field this Campaign, and I am solicitous of rendering every service that is within my power to my Country, as well as taking revenge from an Enemy I received so many personal insults from. Allow me to assure your Excellency, how great my esteem & regard is for you

Saturday June 16 [John Hammond Cromwell to His Excellency Thomas Sim Lee Esqr Governor of Maryland & the Honorable Council.]

Being in Company with some of the Members of the Assembly and Stating the situation of my Case in regard to the Restrictions Laid on me, some of them were of Opinion that I scarcely cou'd so Order my affairs as to obtain a Subsistance Which is undoubtedly true, the Whole Limmits under which I shall be will not permitt me to go more than three Miles at Most, if Your Honors will only Grant me the Liberty of Going to my plantation in the fork of Gunpowder once in two months and not to Continue there more than a few Days at a time I shall be particular in not going at any time when the Enemy are up the Bay shoud they Come there after I have heard it I shall be particular in Staying at home, this request being but Small but of very great advantage to me, I hope I shall be fav^{d} but Cannot this be obtained I shall Beg for some more Extent of Ground in Cecil County, I have been induced to ask this favour from Mr John Taylors informing me that some one or more of the Council said I had better give in my further request in Writing

[The deposition of Philip Replogle] June 17

After being sworn saith that On the fourth day of this Instant he was Persuaded by Henry Claycom to go and Take protection, that they went to Doct^r John Hose and that said Hose Administered an Oath to this Deponent not to bear Arms against the Brittish Army and to Supply them with Provisions and a Waggon & Horses if called on that said Hose Told him that John Parks of Baltimore was one of the Head men and Fritchie in Frederick was Colonel he further saith that John Gripe told him a few days after he was Sworn that if the Potomack was not so High that the people from the South Branch would Come down and rescue the prisoners from the fort and Take them to the English that there was Two or three thousand that had sworn in there, That the Head man at the south Branch wears a Long Beard but does not remember his name; he further saith that Jn° Hose came by his House the Friday after Whitsunday and Informed him he was going to swear in Twenty at Jacques Furnace and that said Claycom Told him that George Stewart had Sworn in Twenty men Viz. Jn° Carpenter, Jn° & James Blare, Jacob & Philip Lear, William Jones, Adam Fisher, Jacob Easter Peter & George Easter and Christian Livingston and a Weaver Living at Claycoms the Remainder he does not remember

Copy. B. Johnson.

[Sam. Smith, Balt., to Gov. Lee.] June 17 Red Book No. 27 Letter 96

A Light Waggon I dispatch'd for Philad^a by Acadent was detain'd untill yesterday, this prevents the 200 suits, being ready so soon as I expected, however on Wednesday, I expect they will be Compleat'd & if a Boat Can be had will be forwarded together with 70 Camp Kettles, the Tents I expect will be ready on Saturday & may meet the Troops at George Town. Not a Blanket was to be had in Philad^a & but for the assistance of Maj. Jenifer who procurd them from Congress, we should have had neither Lead nor Buttons, they were at his request supplied by the Board of War. Swords to Compleat Coll Nicholson's Troops are not obtainable either here or in Philad., I must Employ a person to make which will take Time—the Equipment of Moylans Dragoons, employs all such workmen in Philad^a. Mr Keeport has in store about 50 Blankets & I have provided 8 more all there is in Town. Shall make an attempt with Coarse woollens that may answer the purpose but promise myself little success. 80 Hh^d Tob° must in a few Days be in Philad^a I Have sold & sent for all my first order Except a very few. Flour falls very fast in Philad^a which already is felt here

[Chas. Blake, Corsica, to His Ex. Thos. Sim Lee] (p^r Capt Howell) June 17

By Captn Howell I send 79 barrels of Pork and one of Lard receiv'd by Col° Hollingsworths orders from M^r McBride and M^r

June 17 Shelby, The Col° order'd rations for the Waggoners and as I had none was obliged to take 33^{lbs} out of one of the barrels for them. I make a return of the Whole of the provisions Rec^{d} by Mr Bunberry which I hope came Safe to hand. I shall have 121 bar: of flour in a few days on Corsica ready to deliver

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[Thomas Sprigg, Co'ty. Lt., Hagars Town, to the Council.]
(fav'd by Capt. Morgan)

I Rec^{d} Your Hon^{rs} favours by Captn Ornorf of the 9th and 10th before his return the Conspiracy was discovered and several persons apprehended Among^{t} them the two persons mention'd in Yours of the 9th Henry Newcomer and Yost Pleacker, I've been busy exam^{g} evidences for several days and find A great N° are concernded in this Co^{ty} Many in Virg^{a} some in Fred^{k} Co^{ty} there is about 30 in Goal and expect the Guards every moment that are detatch'd for 50 or 60 more of those in prison their are 5 or 6 that Acknowledge themselves to be Captains that they have Inlisted and Admin'd the Oath of Allegeance to many persons, one of them to the Amo^{t} of 42 they Confess very freely they say they expect and deserve to be hang'd, and I pray God they may not be disappoint'd, I expect their will be a Considerable N° more inform'd Ag^{t}, had the Law for trial by Court Marshall Pass'd last Session, I should not be at any loss to proceed, but at present I really am, Many of their Crimes have been Commitd before the Meet^{g} of the Assembly, some of them since, I would be Glad to be inform'd by Your hon^{rs} as soon as possible whether all Laws pass'd at the same Session are in force from the first day of the Session, if so I shall imm^{y} call a Court proceed to trial and Execution of those that Came under the Law, the Militia in General discover such a desire to appr^{d} the trators that I think very few will Escape, the Whigs are very desirous of hav^{g} a few of the principle persons Execut'd I believe it would have a very good Effect. I but this moment knew of this opp^{y} by Captn Morgan that I hope Your hon^{rs} will excuse my not giving a fuller Acc^{t} and the hurry in which I write, as soon as the Offenders are all Apprehend^{d} and Exam'd shall transmit the whole proceedings by Express, in the mean time shall be Glad to receive Your Hon^{rs} Instructions when I return'd from Annap^{s} I found one Comp^{y} of the select Mil^{a} had march'd to assist in Guarding the prisoners besides a N° of the Other Mil^{a} from this Co^{ty} the whole of the prisoners Hessians and Brittish Consist^{g} of 15 or 1600 was guarded by this Co^{ty} to York, and also finding we were likely to be in much Confusion, and that a Guard would be necessary in Town, I Order'd the Other select Comp^{y} not to March until further Orders but to appear at This place to Guard the Goal which I hope will meet with Your hon^{rs} Approbation

Agreeable to Your directions I prov'd 20 four pound Guns at Mr Hughes works, empress'd 10 wagons to haul them to Balt they

will set out to Morrow, of which please Advise Mr Hughes as I've not time to write him, they stood the first proof so well it induc'd me to give them something more than the usual proof in the second Charge, I believe them to be Extry Guns. June 17 Red Book No. 27 Letter 95

P. S. the Cloathing that your hon^rs propos'd sending up to the rec^t is not arriv'd, I wish could be sent as they might March.

[G. Weedon, B. G, Fredericks^bg, to The Officer Commanding the Detachm^t of Light Dragoons, from Maryland supposed to be at G. Town] June 17

The Situation of the Marquis la Fayette makes it absolutely necessary he should be speedily and powerfully reinforced with Cavalry, I must therefore request you to push forward your Detachment to this Place with all possible Expedition as much depends on his being succoured with Horse.

[Indorsed, " Rec^d at 7 oClock P. M. & forwarded Imediately from my Office, James Hendricks "]

[Richd Barnes, Leo^d Town to His Excellency Thos Sim Lee Esqr] June 18

All the Vessels of the Enemy, left Potomack on Saturday last, They landed at Mrs Egertons house, below Smiths Creek, and plundered And destroyed all her Household furniture, Since I last wrote to you, I have been informed, the Crew of the Frigate, that layed at the mouth of St Marys River were imployed the whole time they were there in gitting Masts &c. for Ships off St Georges Island, where there is good Pine for the purpose. Some of the Inhabitants above St Mary's River, I have been informed furnished the Enemy with Provision whilst they were there. I shall do my endeavours to find them out, the Law that passed for the punishing such chaps, I shall be glad you would supply me with, as some examples may be necessary. If ammunition shuld be wanted, I shuld be glad to be informed If you have any to spare as we shall soon be in want of some owing to our not having Cartouch Boxes and the pilfering of the Militia.

[Richd. Dallam, Harford County, to Gov. Lee.] June 18

Col^o Smith has wrote me to forward to him 160 Barrels flour which I seized on board William Groves Sloop this I could not doe without your Excellencys Perticular directions the flour has been since it came into my hands Attachd by an order from the Court of Admiralty but I shall notwithstanding by your Excellencys directions delivered to whom I am orderd In answer to Col^o Smith I told him I w^ld not deliver it without this flour being particularly mentiond to me by Your Excellency

June 18 [Chris^{r} Birckhead Talbot County to His Excellency Thos Sim Lee Esqr]

I send by Capt Richd Bruff Nine of the draughts from this County, there are some from their indisposition of Body are not able to march, and the others refuse to march at all. Your Excellency will use y^{r} pleasure, respecting those that refuse to march, I hope some other officer may be appointed to compel those that refuse

June 18 [Capt. Joseph Ford to Col. Forrest]

I have taken the Liberty of enclosing you a Letter for his Excellency Tho. Sim Lee Esquire Respecting the Goods Mr Campbell has Liable to a seizure by Law—it is my opinion that such goods as he has may be laid in upon better terms in Annapolis and Baltimore & for that Reason I have thought best to lay the matter before the Council and that we may get there determination more Speedily I shall be obliged to you to wait on them and forward there answer by the Return of Charles Lansdale. Mr Campbell has suspended the Sale of them till I have their directions if the Assembly have taken order in my Matter be so obligeing as to inform me of their decree.

June 18
Red Book
No. 22
Letter 16

[Gabriel Jacobs, Frederick Town, to Gov. Lee.] (Hon^{d} by Mr. Foster)

I wou'd thank your excellency for an Order for the Cloathing specified in a Memorandum from Capt. Reed & delivered to your excellency by Capt Davis & allso for twenty pair of Shoes, Capt. Reed had the Promise of The shoes from Mr Murdock but he has not furnish'd them, the men are Exceedingly distressd for want of the Cloathes

June 20 P. S. Since I wrote the above have inlisted two men shou'd be glad of an order for Cloathing for them allso

June 18 [Hezekiah Reeder, Port Tobacco, to the Governor and Council.]

I receiv'd your order of the 9th Ins^{t} to purchase one hundred Beef cattle which I expect to compleat in a few days, I hope you will direct in what manner I am to be furnished with cash to enable me to carry on the business in this County, the late commissary Mr Jenifer drew on the collector of the Tax for £200 as directed by Law

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No. 27
Letter 97

[Sam. Smith, Balto., to Gov. Lee.] (p^{r} Mr. Buchanan)

I did myself the Honor to write your Excell^{y} yesterday since when I rec^{d} Information that Mr Hollingsworth will fall short 1000 B^{bles} flour from the order I rec^{d} & Mr Dallam writes that the principal part of the wheat in his County is ground up, so that the Delivery in this side Mr Calhoun's District will fall short at least 500 B^{bles} This will

occasion to fall far short in Payment of the Contract I have made unless my order for Tobacco is Considerably Increas'd, I must therefore pray that the Bearer Mr Buchanan may be supplied with an order on the Treasury for 100 Hhds. Tobacco—and that I may be furnish'd with an order on Mr R. Dallam for 160 B^bles^ flour which he says he has in his possession, being part of a quantity seiz'd by him & which he cannot deliver but by an express order from your Board. I will thank you to send such order Imm^y^ June 18 Red Book No. 27 Letter 97

I cannot procure more Tent Linen than will make 1 Marque 8 Horsemens Tents & 50 Common Tents—they will be ready next Saturday. I Have this Day supplied 60 men at this Post with Clothing.

[Petition of William Tarbutton To his Excellency Thomas Simm Lee, and the honble the Council] [June 18] Red Book No. 26 Letter 105

The Petition of William Tarbutton of Queen Anns County Humbly Sheweth That your Petitioner being one of the Militia in Captain George Finley's Company in the fifth Battalion, hath been lately draughted pursuant to an Act of Assembly intitled "An Act to procure Recruits" to serve in the Army of the United States

That your petitioner is and hath been for a long time very sickly and Infirm, and wholly unable to perform the necessary Duties of a Soldier.

That your petitioner when formerly called on for the like Service was discharged by reason of his bodily Infirmities which have been increasing on him ever since. That your Petitioners feeble Labor is the only support to his Wife and Family. That his marching woud only be attended with certain Expence to the Public, without a prospect of rendering any essential Service to his Country in the Army. That the Death of your Petitioners Father on Wednesday the thirteenth Instant prevented his attendance at Church Hill on that Day to lay his Case before the Lieutenant of the County afsd. Your Petitioner therefore humbly prays that his Case may be considered and that for the Reasons assigned Your Excellency and honors will grant him a discharge from the Army. And as in Duty bound he'll pray.

George Finley
Benj^a^ Elliott.

[Petition of Rachel Tarbutton To His Excellency Thomas Simm Lee—and the Honble the Council] June 18 Red Book No. 26 Letter 104

The Petition of Rachel Tarbutton of Queen Anns County. Humbly Sheweth. That a certain Richard Ratcliffe hath lately been classed and Draughted in the Twentieth Battalion of the Militia in this County pursuant to an Act Intitled "An Act to procure recruits"

June 18
Red Book
No. 26
Letter 104

That the said Richard is an Orphan Child of your Petitioners Brother, who left this State seven Years past Leaving his Children in a helpless Condition. That your petitioners Husband who died on Wednesday the thirteenth Instant took the afs[d] Richard and raised him to his present State, being under Seventeen Years old. That your Petitioners Husband altho a pensioner of this County maintained the said Richard, and left your Petitioner and four Children without any other Male in the family except the said Richard (and a disabled son) in a very low and helpless Condition. That the said Richard altho well grown, is very infirm and, as your Petitioner believes, very unfit to perform military Duty. Your Petitioner therefore prays your Excellency and Honor will take the premisses into Consideration and that the said Richard may be discharged from the Service and as in Duty bound she will Pray &c[a]

June 19
Blue Book
No. 4
Letter 17

[Petition of Tho[s] Price, Annapolis to His Excellency Gov. Sim Lee]

May it Please your Excellency } having taken the oppertunity of Troubling you with these few Lines knowing that they will not Be Received any ways amiss & further to Inform you that I am a Man that is very far Stricken in Years & have a large family and my house Burnt & My place laid waiste & not a Roof Left for my distressed family to abide in tho Sir It was realy through a mistake for I am not Guilty of the Crime alledged to me which is as it is Signifyed and laid Before your Exce[y] a foe to My Country therefore I hope your Honour will in your Breast Consider my unhappy situation & Endeavour by some means to release me from this unhappy Prison so that I May by some Means Endeavour to Retreave my Loss again By the Assistance of the Almighty God.

And your Petitioner will Ever Pray

June 19

[Rich'd Dallam, Harford County, to Gov. Lee.]

M[r] Patterson who was appointed to Procure or seize Horses under the Law to Procure an Immediate supply Cloathing and a sufficient number of Horses informd me this day that he was not willing to act he has road several days on this Business & finds that the Law is exceeding disagreeable to the people in Gen[l] & hard to be executed, but thinks that if he could be impowered to contract for the purchase himself & any time assured for him to engage Payment that he could procure the Carriage & a Great part of the Light Horse without much difficulty & perhaps on full as reasonable terms to the Public, many ways are at present contrived to evade the Law M[r] Patterson is a discreet man & w[ld] do as much Justice to the Public as any Person I know & therefore wish he could be prevail'd on to execute the Law—but if he must follow the mode Point'd out directly he will not, therefore I mention it to your Excellency that if any other directions can be given on the Subject It may

[Joseph Ford, Leonard Town, to Gov. Lee.]

June 19
Red Book
No. 28
Letter 70

I am Honour'd with Letters from Your Honorable Board of the 5. 9. & 11th Instant that of the 11th enclosing an Order on the Collector for Fifteen Thousand pounds of Tobacco. I have been collecting Cattle Agreeable to Orders and Must say for that part of the people that I have been with that they parted with them with willingness I shall be able in Ten days to forward my number and must observe that there is at Least one Thousand as much exposed. I do immagine that it will not be wrong to send those steers Returned on Hand forward with them many people here would willingly discharge there Class money in Bacon but it is determined here that it was not the intention of the Assembly.

Mr Archibald Campbell Merchant in this Town has Two or Three pieces of Oznabgs and a few pieces of Low priced dutch Linnens for sale I applied to him for them he says they belong to Mr David Stewart Baltimore and that Stewart has already furnished large supplies for public use I should have taken them Agreeable to Law, but was of opinion that such goods were to be had in Baltimore on better terms as these were brought from there he has promised me not to sell them till I get directions Respecting them which I Hoped your Excellency And the Honble Council will take under consideration and inform me what I shall do in the matter the Enemies Ships has left Potomack except the one thought to be a flagg, without doing any damage Except the Burning one Mr Blackstones House

[H. Hollingsworth, Head of Elk, to His Excellency, Thomas Sim Lee, Esqr, In Council.]

June 19
Red Book
No. 30
Letter 86

And Please your Excelly & Honours On examining the Flour that is come to hand Manufactured for the state I find part of it very badly handled, and put up in bad casks, and those being not nailed or lin'd makes them still worse, and in one quantity a mixture of Indian Meal among the Flour, as this quantity comes from a distant county, shall omit mentioning names at present, but shall give them at full length hereafter some of the Millers I have spake to on the Subject of their flour being bad who say the Wheat was not good, or well cleaned, this leads me to mention one clause omitted in my last (viz) that all wheat received in the specific supply shall be clean and Merchantable and shall weigh at least fifty eight pounds ꝑ Bushell, or if it should not weigh that, (ꝑ Bushell) that it be made up at least, of good clean Merchantable wheat, as to casks I need not say any thing on them, as I never saw a good one come from the lower Countys; I think it would be necessary that the Commissary of each County keep at least two of the Teams now collecting to assist collect and forward their provisions and that corn be admited in part of the Specific supply as tis very much wanted, I hope your Excel-

June 19 lency and Honours will excuse those detached scrawls, I am obliged
Red Book No. 30 to take them as they occur to me, or as they become necessary.
Letter 86 Your favour is Just now received regarding the Bread and shall be attended too as soon as I can get a Vessel for that purpose most of the owners of Vessels are shy of the public Service, as they have been too Illy paid,

June 19 [John Murdock, Montgomery County, to Gov. Lee.]
(By John Beedon)

The Bearer drives a Waggon with him in Order to receive and bring to George Town, the Arms and Accoutrements which you may choose to send thither for the Use of the Militia in this County.

We are in great Want of Ammunition for small Arms and Col[l] Deakins tells me you can send Cartridges ready made for the proper sized Muskets, which will be very convenient as no Cartridge Paper is to be had in this Part of the Country.

There is a small Quantity of Lead in George Town, which might be cast and made up into Cartridges suitable for Guns of different sized Bores, if you think proper to send some Cartridge Paper for the Purpose; some Gunpowder is also wanted only a small Quantity being on Hand besides some damaged Powder which is now issuing to the select Militia and light Horse to muster with.

Should it be necessary to lodge at George Town, any Ammunition for the Militia of other Counties, it may be sent by this Waggon, if there should not be a full Load without it.

Commissions are wanted for the two following Persons in Cap[t] Thomas Edmonston's Company—Col[l] Deakins's Battalion—Viz Richard Jones 2[d] Lieut[t] Jeremiah Orme, Ensign. Please to inform the Waggoner how and when he is to be paid for this Service.

June 19 [Hezekiah Wheeler, George Town, to His Excellency Thomas Sim Lee, Esqr.]

I got to this place on the 8th Ult[o] with a Company of Select Militia from the lower Batalion of Prince Georges County, with some Muskets, but such as are by no means proper to take to the field; besides their want of Bayonets & the smallness of the bore, they are entirely out of repair, I am the more importunate on this matter as I hourly expect to be orderd to the Southward with the light horse from this place, shall therefore hope you will send our order to Col[o] Beall to deliver so many well fixt arms as the Company may want, before they receive orders to March.

June 20 [William Clagett, Piscataway, to Gov. Lee.] (By Mr. Landsdale)

I shall agreeable to your directions get the Goods collected to Marlbro by to morrow noon, and shall indeavour to send them from thence the next day.

I have about 800 bbs of Bacon for sale for which I will take 15[d] specie ꝑ bb or Tobacco at 15/ ꝑ 100 to be in this County, if you think proper to purchase the Bacon, an order on the Sheriff of this County will answer, and I will deliver the above quantity of Bacon to any person you may appoint June 20

On the other side you have an account of the Articles which I have taken from my Brother, and as the goods will be at Annapolis before my Brother will Leave that place, you will have an opportunity of seeing the Goods and fixing the price with him.

To Thomas Clagett & C°

1781 June.	To 100 yd[s] of Duffle & Bearskin in 5 ꝑ[s] @ 200[lbs] Tob payment	lbs. Tob° 20,000
20	To 2 ꝑ[s] 123 yd[s] Germon Dowlass	

To 8	fine	felt	Hatts	N° 7	7	fine	felt Hatts	3
8	d[d]	d°	"	6	7	d°	d°	2
2	d°	d°		5				1 Bed Cord.
7	d°	d°		4	To 2 Boxes to pack the Goods			

[Philip Casson, Com'y, Caroline County, to the Governor and Council.] June 20

In pursuance of an Act to raise an immediate supply of Cloathing for the use of the Troops now raised and raising in this State I am to acquaint you that there is but one small Store kept in this County (in which such things only can be obtained) the Property of a Gentleman we have afforded every friendly assistance that could be expected from a Person of his abilities—he has six thousand Pounds in Certificates now by him for which he has furnished Commodities of various kinds—and offers the goods I have Taken an account of at first Cost with the Addition of expences in getting them from Philadelphia to the Place they now are, the few Articles which I thought came under the Law with the Price annexed to each are as follows Viz.

			Special
11¾	Yards Rushia Sheeting	@ 7/6	4: 8: 1½
20½	Yards Brown d°	@ 7/6	7..13..9
42	Yards White d°	@ 6/6	13.. 0..0
6½	Yards Check Linen	@ 7/6	2.. 8..9
	Amount		£27..10..7½

The above goods he will take Country Produce for agreeable to the Price here given—and should Your Excellency approve or Disapprove of the Proceedings—I would Humbly be oblige to you for

June 20 directions respecting them. Should have sent Samples, but an Opportunity offering for Quick Passage and my being a distance from Them Prevented me but should they be wanted will inclose them in a Letter immediately.

June 20 [Edw'd Gaither Jun'r, Elk Ridge, To James Brice Esqr Lieu^{t} of Ann Arundel C^{ty}.] (Fav^{d} by Capt. Stevens)

Please to have the following Person's Commission'd for Capt Charles Whites Company of Militia, Thomas Ijams, Second Lt Henry Dorsey (of Joshua) Ensign. for Capt Vach^{l} Stevens Company Benjamin Hood first L^{t}

The following drafted Persons are not to be found; their Familys say they dont know where they are—Aaron McKenzie—William Beachman John Brown (shoemaker) John Fitgency (at Elk Ridge Land^{g}) has armed himself and says he will die in his house before he'l goe to Arm^{s} Please to write me what's to be done

June 20
Red Book
No. 27
Letter 98

[Pat. Sim Smith, Calvert, to Gov. Lee]

I have in consequence of my appointment used my utmost endeavours to procure cloathing &^{ca} for the Troops, but have met with very little success. The only person I can find in the County who has any of the articles enumerated for sale is Mr James Stone, and he has only about 70 or 80 yards of course Linnens such as I think may answer—this I have seized, but as Mr Stone's sole dependance is on a small trade he carries on from this Place to Baltimore Town, and he has lately lost Twenty hogsheads of Tobacco taken by the Enemy, I am really sorry to distress him, should be therefore very glad this seizure might be dispensed with, especially as the advantage arising from it to the State will be trifling in proportion to the Injury he may sustain as an Individual unless he could be Immediately paid for the goods—being at a loss to know what is allowed for such Linnens, I have Inclosed Samples of the different kinds with the prices he has fixed on them, and must beg for directions—(If I am to keep them) what price to allow him.

I much fear the meat provisions I have on hand belonging to the State will be lost for the want of Barrels and Salt neither can be got here on any Terms. I have expected them for sometime past from Annapolis, but am afraid they have been forgot in the hurry of Business.

Could they be landed on Herring Bay (provided tis not convenient to Land to Patuxent) I would Immediately have them carted over—this I flatter myself may be Done shortly as I am anxious to save the provision, and think there is no other Chance for it.

Linnens taken by Pat Sim Smith for the use of the State, the property of James Stone viz. June 20 Red Book No. 27 Letter 98

20 yds house Linnen	d 7/
30 yds Irish sheeting	10/
30 yds Britaines	8/6

[Matt Ridley, Adjt, George Town, to Gov. Lee.] June 21

I have to inform you that part of the Baltimore Troop of Light Dragoons got here last Saturday. Since then some others have joined and make in the whole Rank & file Forty Eight of the Frederick Troops, there are twenty eight rank & file. We are in expectation that a few more will yet join each Troop.

We have had several reports of our being ordered to the southward—should this be necessary the Frederick Troop will have occasion for camp Kettles, which I beg may be forwarded without delay. Capt Moore also desires that he may be furnishd with the Militia Laws. Among such a Number some disputes may arise and it will be necessary the officers should know their powers.

I am desired to ask of the loss of Horses by death, from accident, or in the Field; what is to be the Owners remedy? This Question arises from one of the Frederick Gentlemen having lost his. He was sent out with some others on a party for provisions. On his return the Horse died. Unless he can be furnished with another he must be left behind—similar instances may arise. I do not think the State will expect the individual to Sustain the loss—indeed many cannot afford it. With submission Would it not be proper to have all the Horses valued by indifferent persons?

From the politeness of our Friends we fare well here; but unless some instructions are given there must shortly be a want of provisions & Forage We have already been obliged to order out parties to seize Cattle & are only fed from hand to Mouth with Hay

About 180 of the Frederick Militia are come in. Our Gentlemen desire their respects.

[William Clagett, Upper Marlbro, to His Ex^{y} Thomas S. Lee Esqr] June 21

James Ritchie will deliver Mr John Muir the Goods taken in this County by Monday next. You will please to Charge John Smith Brookes and Com^{y} with 1 p^{s} ozenburgs 136 yds short delivered me as they had made use of it since they gave an acc^{t} of the Goods taken from them, in expectation of replacing it before it would be wanted.

June 21
Red Book
No. 27
Letter 102

[Sam. Smith, Balt., to Gov. Lee.]

I was honor'd this Moment with your Excell^{y} orders of yesterday. All the Linen in Town that is proper for Tents is procur'd & I flatter myself will be made on Saturday, say 1 Marque 18 Horsemens & 50 Com. Tents. These can meet the Troops at George Town. The Camp Kettles will be done this Evening, which together with about 150 suits I will forward to morrow Morning to Mr Muir. I shall be glad to know whether Mr Poe's Rec^{t} for the Tents will be satisfactory, There are no Waggons yet procured for the Troops. I Have Compleatly fitted 64 Men here which together with the 150 suits is the 200 I promis'd. I Have deliver'd the Troops here near 50 Blankets & have this Day provided about 70 more. 50 of these are to be sent for 45 Miles where they had been sent for safety, they together with such Things not furnish'd may be sent with the Tents.

Gen. Gist has applied to Mr Poe for a Marquee am I to Supply the Linen. He proposes marching with the Detachment.

June 21
Brown Book
No. 9

[Gear Chadwick, Onancock to Col^{o} George Colbin.]

The within mentioned Prisoners I have sent under Gard to your Care & beg your Assistance in Geting them to Snow Hill where they mostly belong I took them on Sunday Last off Wats Island from Pokomoke bound to Annemesik & from thence to Portsmouth by Papers the Bearer will shew you youl find the Greatest Seene of Vileney in Agation that Could Ever Commited by man & Perhaps if had not been Timely Prevented would have Ruened that Part of the Cuntry therefore I wish you to bring them to Judgment or Retain them in Confinement untill I am Redy to Go to Philadelphia

the within names is John Travis, John Cox, John Gunbey, Daniel Johnson, James Burdel.

June 21
Red Book
No. 27
Letter 101

[Thomas Sprigg, Washington Coty, to the Council.]

Yours of the 21st I rec^{d} and take the Liberty of informing your Hon^{rs} that your determination of hav^{g} the Special Court held at Fred^{k} for Trial of the Persons appre^{d} in this Co^{ty} has Occation'd much Uneasiness amongst the Whigs of this place, they have taken uncommon pains to bring them to Justice, and construe their being sent to Fred^{k} in the most unfavourable terms, they suppose its for fear that a Jury can't be had hear that can be trusted, which I hope was not the case for be Assur'd the Generallity of the People are as well dispos'd to Punish the Offenders as they can be in any Co^{ty} notwithstanding we have 100 now in Goal the Inhabitants has apply'd to me to intercede with your Hon^{s} to have them try'd at Hagars Town, and as their behaviour on this Occasion merits every Service in my power, I must beg the fav^{r} of your hon^{rs} (if it is not inconsistant) to indulge them with an alteration in the order so far as

relates to the Prisoners here, Your hon^{rs} will receive in Clos'd a Petition which was handed to me Sign'd by the Principles in Town, they are so desirious of hav^{g} the Court at this Place that they have imploy'd a person to go express June 21 Red Book No. 27 Letter 101

N. B. the cloathing which was ordered to this place is not yet arrived

[Thos. Contee to Gov. Lee.] (Mr. A. Thomas) June 22

The bearer A Thomas had some Goods from Mr A. Contee to barter for Tobacco on Patuxent at fixed prices. Mr William Clagett seized a part of them for the Army, for which he gave a Certificate, he says he was Authorized by Law.

To Arrest the Property of any man entitled to the protection of his Country must hurt the feelings of every man who wishes to be free. Mr Thomas has the Account of the goods at the rates he was ordered to dispose of them for Tobacco. If your Excellency and the Council think proper to pay Tobacco, an Order on the Sheriff of Calvert or Prince Georges to pay Tobacco on Patuxent will be agreeable. I have seen a Contract for Tobacco at the Upper Warehouses on Patuxent five Shillings for a Livre and Tobacco at Eight Shillings per Centum. This was done by Consent and the [owner] had part the bargain making I am no ways Interested in the goods, only as the Property of my Son, they were taken out of my Storehouse at Nottingham three days ago and I presume are at Annapolis before this time.

My son does not know that his goods are taken nor do I mean to hurry the payment, I believe he has Contracted for & must pay Tobacco for the goods and I wish to advise him what he is to expect for them.

[Sam. Smith, Balt., to Gov. Lee.] June 22 Red Book No. 27 Letter 103

Mr Muir Informs me you understood the order I sent him for Tobacco to be the same as that & Mr Buchanan your Excell^{y} will remember, that the order to Mr Muir was in Consequence of the Tents & Camp Kettles order'd & Not Estimated & that to Mr Buchanan in Consequence of the Impossibility of putting any reliance on Mr Hollingsworth furnishing any flour as your Excell^{y} saw by his Letter which I did myself the Honor to forward a few days ago, even 100 H^{hds} to be deliver'd Mr Muir will not put me in that Situation I was under the order on Mr Hollingsworth, as you will see at Bottom, add to this Mr Calhouns Deliverys are very slow & the price of flour falling, I shall want at least 200 H^{hd} more besides this to Mr Muir to Compleat my purchases already made. The Heavy Demands by Mr Keeports, the Lead & many other advances made Since I furnish'd my Estimate will amo^{t} to at least 200 H^{hds} Extraordinary. I

June 22 Red Book No. 27 Letter 103 flatter myself your Excell^{y} will order the Treasury to furnish Mr Muir with 100 H^{hds} Imm^{y}. Mr Muir's acco^{t} of fine Cloth for officers amo^{t} to near 100 Hh^{ds} which was not Estimated.

June 23 [Chas. Blake, Corsica, to His Ex: Thos S. Lee]

Enclos'd I send y^{r} Ex: patterns of the Cloath seized for the State 41 yds of the Frize @ 22/6 11¾ of the Brown Coating @ nine bus of Wheat and 9½ of the light Coating at the same price I have seized 3 blanketts six yds of Course linnen and four hatts all the clothing for sale with us the Shops were quite empty

[P. S.] the above wheat Mr Hutchings rates at a dollar.

June 23 [Richard Dallam to Governor Lee]

Col^{o} Aquila Paca will apply to Your Excellency with a List Officers wanting for the 23rd Battalion of Militia of this County, Your Excellency will Please to Order such Commissions as he will Apply for to be made out

P. S. Aquila Paca, Col^{o}; John Rogers, Leiu^{t} Col^{o}; Samuel Smith, Major

[Inclosure]

To Col: Aquila Paca.

Sir The Cross Road Company request that you would procure Commissions for their Company as follows viz

James Walker Captain

James Cain 1st Lieutenant

Daniel Baylis 2nd d^{o}

Hugh Dever Ensign—as they have this Day chose them by Vote June 16th 1781

Signed by Jno Tilbrook Clk.

The Votes taken in presence of John Archer.

June 23 [Matt Ridley, George Town, to Gov. Lee.]

I did my self honor to write you p post and was in hopes to have heard from your Hon̄ble Board on the Subject of the Horses. Militia Laws &c. From the hurry in which my last Letter was wrote I mistook in saying the number of the Baltimore Troop here rank & file was forty. I should have said the whole including commissioned & non Comm^{d} the same with regard to the Frederick Troop. Since that Letter the number of the Frederick Troop is considerably diminish'd by Furloughs. The last Parade day only fifteen in the whole were muster'd Many are gone home to replenish in Money & others to look into their Family affairs. They are much dissatisfied with laying here so long & grumble much at their private expences; which are rather encreased from the want of proper provision not having been

made at this place. In short we are all uneasy at the trouble we give as well as expence we put our Friends to. I flater myself your Honble Board will take the general situation into Consideration & fall on some method to remove the present inconveniences. June 23

[Sam Smith, Balt., to Gov. Lee.] June 24 Red Book No. 27 Letter 104

I do myself the Honor to Inclose your Excell^{ys} a Deposition forwarded by Mr Baker Johnson in consequence of which I took up & Confin'd in Jail, John Parker, on searching his papers there was nothing found that would Criminate him. He requests a Speedy Trial declaring his Innocence, I presume It will be easier to Carry him to Fred^{k} where a Number Concernd are to be tried, than to procure the attendance of the necessary Evidence here. The Person mention'd to Gen. Buchanan has been taken. He has a Certificate of having taken the Oath in Charles C^{ty}

It will be Impossible to Equip Coll. Nicholsons Troop of Horse in less than one Month. I Have set Ellicott to work on the swords &c &c. He can make but 10 ꝑ week

I Have provided 80 Blanketts since my last which will I presume nearly be sufficient for the Troops, the Tents will be finish'd Tomorrow & if I knew when the Troops would march, everything wanting should meet them at George Town. The Guns sent ꝑ Mr Hughes are very handsome but they weigh between 10 & 1100^{l} each. The Carriages are nearly Compleated. If the Troops do not march this week I will forward more Clothing, Tents &c to Anapolis. I should be glad to be Instructed whether Mr Poe's receipt for the Canvass necessary for Tents, will be sufficient. The making &c. &c is more in his way than mine—flour still comes in very slow I flatter myself Mr Muir is supplied with another 100 H^{hds} Tobacco, if I fail in my first Contract—I shall be put on the List of public Contractors & be able to obtain a farther Credit. I should have a return of what is still wanting for the Troops that I might know how to Compleat them.

[Wm. Bordley, Chester Town, to His Excell^{cy} Thos. Sim Lee, Esq.] June 25

Agreeable to your request I contracted for the making as many pair of shoes as £150 would pay for, upon the best terms I could, & waited some time for an opportunity to send the order, but none offering I hired a man for that purpose, the shoemakers pressing for their money; enclosed you have your order, with Mr Dickinsons answer, at which I am somewhat surprised & much disappointed supposing your Excellencies order good, I passed my word for the payment of £150 the sum mention'd therein. Mr Crane seeing the necessity of furnishing the soldiers with shoes, has made a pair for each, trusting to the state, for the payment of the sum exceeding

June 25 the £150, the whole acc^{t} I have enclosed, hoping you will as soon as possible send money to discharge it, or the sum which I engaged to pay him in consequence of the order. I received your letter countermanding the march of the troop of light horse, with a request that they would with all possible dispatch equip themselves for the Field, with which I have acquainted them, & believe they are making every exertion in their power—we have procured a three years recruit in the room of the Drafted man—& sincerely wish the Clothing could be sent over, as they will not consent to leave this place before they are clothed.

I am sorry there is no money left in this Treasury as I am just return'd from Annapolis where I left all the money in my hands as Treasurer and if there was I could not pay your Order, as the Assembly have directed me not to pay any more Orders untill they shall direct me. I am your mo: obed^{t}

H. Dickinson

Wednesday night 1781.

June 22^{d} 1781. The State of Maryland D^{r} to David Crane.

To fifty one Pair of Shoes and Leather to Foot one Pair of Boots at thirteen Shillings and Nine Pence a Pair Specie or Eighty Two and six Pence a Pair State Money which is the Present Exchange

E E by David Crane

Specie £35:15:0
State 214:10:0

Chester Town June 22^{d} 1781

Received of Mr David Crane fifty one Pair of shoes for the use of the Soldiers belonging to the Maryland Line and Leather to Shue a Pair of Boots for mySelf

Thos Mason Capt
4th M^{d} Reg^{t}

June 25
Red Book
No. 30
Letter 91

[Deposition of Thomas Beall of George, Esq., Bernard O'Neill and Leonard M. Deakins]

State of Maryland Montgomery County to wit
June 25th 1781

Then Thomas Beall of George Esqr Bernard O Neill and Leonard M. Deakins came before me, one of the Justices of the County aforesaid, and made Oath on the holy Evangels of Almighty God, well and truly to appraise in Specie, the Horses belonging to the Troops commanded by Nicholas R. Moore Esquire.

Sworn before
Richard Thompson

June 25
Red Book
No. 30
Letter 91

Persons names	No. horses	Colour	Age	Price
Cap[t] [N] R. Moore	1	Bay Stalion	8	£150.. 0.. 0
D° D°	1	Black D°	9	40.. 0.. 0
Thos. Russel L[t]	1	dark Chesnut D°	7	150.. 0.. 0
D° D°	1	Grey Mare	8	60.. 0.. 0
Mark Pringle Coronet	1	Bay Gelding	12	60.. 0.. 0
D° D°	1	D° D°	14	30.. 0.. 0
Doct[r] Gooding	1	Bay Gelding	9	60..—..—
D° D°	1	D° D°	7	50..—..—
W[m] King Q. M.	1	Bay Mare	6	60..—..—
Francis Grant	1	Sorrell Gild[g]	6	60..—..—
John Steuart	1	Grey Geling	5	100..—..—
John McColester	1	D° D°	5	120..—..—
Alex[r] McCim	1	D° D°	5	75..—..—
Major T. Yates	1	black Geling	8	140..—..—
do do	1	Bay Stalion	7	120..—..—
Dan[l] Carroll Bal[l]	1	black Mare	8	80..—..—
David Reese	1	D° Gelding	8	90..—..—
Robert Harris	1	D° D°	8	75..—..—
Nathan Levie	1	D° D°	6	75..—..—
Joseph Lemon	1	Bay D°	14	50..—..—
James Jaffrey	1	Sorrell D°	7	120..—..—
George Turnbull	1	Bay Mare	5	50..—..—
Sam[l] Hollingsworth	1	D° Gelding	6	90..—..—
Will. Taylor	1	D° D°	6	80..—..—
Cha[s] [Myers?]	1	D° D°	7	50..—..—
Jn° Spear	1	D° D°	5	80..—..—
Joseph Foster	1	D° D°	8	90..—..—
Dan[l] Hopkins	1	Sorrell Mare	10	60..—..—
Abraham Vanbibber	1	1 Bay Stalion	4	80..—..—
John Kirwin	1	1 Sorrell Gel[g]	6	90..—..—
Jn° Jeffers	1	dark Bay	10	50..—..—
Thorogood Smith	1	Iron Grey D°	7	120..—..—
James Stirling	1	D° D° D°	7	140..—..—
Will Buchanan	1	Bay D°	12	50..—..—
George Hamond	1	Sorrell D°	8	100..—..—
James Ryan	1	dark Bay D°	6	100..—..—
Matthew Ridley	1	Bay D°	5	130..—..—
Tho[s] Hollingsworth	1	Sorrell D°	6	90..—..—
Mathew Patten	1	Bay		75..—..—
Bryan Philpott	1	Dark Bay Mare	9	60..—..—
Luther Martin	1	Bay Stalion	6	100..—..—
				3810.. 0.. 0

June 25
Red Book
No. 30
Letter 91

The above is the Baltimore Troops of Horses Commanded by Capt. [Nicholas] R. More as Appraised by us

Bernard O'Niell
Leonard M. Deakins
Thos. Beall of Geo.

Red Book
No. 30
Letter 91

Frederick Troops.

Persons names	Horses	Colour	Age	Price
Capt. Jn° R. Key	1	Roan Mare	7	£112..10..—
D° D°	1	Bay Horse	5	100..—..—
Philip Marony Cor^t	1	Roan Mare	8	80..—..—
D° D°	1	D° Horse	5	20..—..—
Usher Charlton	1	Black D°	7	80..—..—
Abraham Faw	1	Grey D°	4	80..—..—
Nicho^s Dawson	1	D° D°	3	90..—..—
Peter Grosh	1	Bay D°	9	75..—..—
Thos. Nolan	1	D° D°	16	35..—..—
Joseph Swearengen	1	D° D°	9	50..—..—
Jacob Gumbare	1	dark Bay D°	6	60..—..—
Henry Gross	1	Bay Mare	8	25..—..—
Henry Mainyard	1	D° Horse	5	50..—..—
Saml Duvall	1	D° D°	4	60..—..—
Richd Sheckells	1	Sorrell D°	9	65..—..—
James Hook Junr	1	Bay D°	6	50..—..—
Frederick Shull	1	Sorrell D°	6	75..—..—
Will. Simm	1	Roan D°	7	80..—..—
Will. Ming	1	Black D°	5	70..—..—
Basil Wood	1	Black Mare	5	70..—..—
Philip Morningstar	1	dark Chestnut Stal	7	80..—..—
Benj. Musgrove	1	Grey Mare	6	90..—..—
Nathl Thomas	1	Grey Horse	4	75..—..—
Alex^r Warfield	1	Bay D°	10	80..—..—
John Shelman J^r	1	Sorrell D°	7	70..—..—
George Snatsell	1	D° D°	6	80..—..—
Geo. Michael Hook	1	Bay Mare	4	45..—..—
Will Jacobs	1	Sorrell Horse	7	60..—..—
Ed. Hall	1	Bay D°	10	50..—..—

The Above is the Fred^k Troop of Horses Commanded by Jn° Ross Key which was Appraised by us

Bernard O'Neill
Leonard M. Deakins
Thos. Beall of Geo.

[Lafayette, Mr Savages house 13 Miles from New Kent Court house, to Gov. Lee]

June 25
Brown Book
No. 7
Letter 66

Yesterday morning the enemy renewed their march from Kent Court house to Williamsburg. This morning a light corps, that was in advance, and the Pennsylvania line moved after them. Lord Cornwallis has not, as yet, explained himself clearly enough, for one to determine upon his immediate objects. I would suppose however, that a post at Williamsburg, and a small one, perhaps, at York, may be intended. Heretofore his cavalry have covered his maneuvres, and rendered him almost impenetrable.

I have been for some time past flattered with accounts of an approaching succour in cavalry from your State, but their not joining me, makes me fear lest they should be prevented by some obstacle that had not been foreseen. If it is to be removed by the Executive, I pray your Excellency to give such orders for this purpose as may effect it with as much expedition as possible. Where an Army consists chiefly in Militia, a large and good cavalry is of the last importance. It is our misfortune that ours is chiefly in militia, and that the enemy's cavalry renders every effort of ours that may produce an equality, a primary object. With an Army of this description, and without cavalry to oppose to the enemies, you can easily conceive his advantages. But notwithstanding, these his Lordship has the credit of having moved with great caution.

[Geo. P. Keeports, Baltimore, to Gov. Lee.]

June 25
Red Book
No. 30
Letter 90

May It Please Your Excellency I Received in the Course of Last Week Eighteen Peices of Cannon (From Mount Etna Furnace) Said to be Four Pounders but are not all of a Bore some of them will Carry a Six pound Shot, The Guns are Very Fine To Judge from Appearance I think them Equal to any Ever Cast on the Continent But are By no means Proportioned or Proper for Field Peices as they are much too short & Heavy. They are only of the Common Length for Ship Guns, as I was not Informed wether Those are the Guns Intended for the Travelling Carriages I was Ordered to have made. Your Excelly will Please to Inform me wether Those are the Guns Intended for Field Peices and wether the Whole or What Part is to be mounted on Proper Travelling Carriages.

There is 4 Three pounders (which would Answer for Field Peices much Better) Offered in Exchange for 4 of Those Guns.

Two Ammunition Wagons will be Done this week and the Other 4 are in hand, The Carriages and Wagons Require a Considerable Quantity of Iron & the black Smiths would Take Barr Iron at the market Price in part Paymt for their Work. If suitable your Excellency will Please to order 5 or six Ton Imediately for this Purpose

Length of Peices from the Muzzle to the Base Ring. 4.9 Ins. Diamiter at Base Ring 13½ Ins. Weigh 10..1..14lb.

June 26
Red Book
No. 5
Letter 105

[Dan'l of St. Thos. Jenifer, Dan'l Carroll, R. Potts, Phil[a], to Gov. Lee.]

We received your Excellencys Letter which you did us the honor to write the 22[d] Ins[t]

We are truely sensible of your Excellencys & the Councils inclination to support us in this place, we have only to regret that the means in your power have not hitherto been adequate to the purpose; but if the Tobacco which you put under M[r] Keys direction arrives safe, we shall be relieved from every difficulty w[ch] we have for some time laboured under.

We have not seen M[r] Mollohon, but have not the least doubt his honoring M[r] Keys Order.

By Letters from the Marquis Fayette the 18th at Allens Creek 22 miles from Richmond (where Lord Cornwallis was their encamped) we are informed that the Marquis having been joined by Wayne, some Rifle men & Militia, and being informed that Cornwallis was marching towards Baron Steuben, He the Marquis by a forced March got between his Lordship & the Baron which obliged the former to change his rout and March to Richmond.

We are sorry that the 300 stand of Arms which were to be sent off last tuesday by the board of War to Maryland, only goes this day, we are promised that the others to the amount of 1500 including the 200 sent & the 300 shall soon follow, the pressing demands from Virg[a] has prevented our coming in for our share sooner. You may depend that we shall give every attention in our power to this object 'till it is fully obtained. Congress have not received any late information either from Europe or the West Indies

June 26
Red Book
No. 27
Letter 106

[David Stewart, Baltimore to Coll Uriah Forrest] (favoured by Mr. Sterrett)

I find by a letter from M[r] Campbell to M[r] William Taylor, (now absent with the Troop Gone to the southward) that Col Ford has seized some Goods in the hands of M[r] Campbell the property of M[r] George Salmon M[r] William Taylor and myself, which we sent down for the purpose of bartering for Tobacco, which we wanted at that place, and think it hard to be disapointed—particularly as on Enquiry, I find the act of Assembly directing a Seizure, was only in Case a Sufficient Quantity Could not be purchased to dispatch the Troops now at Annapolis, and Col Smith informs me he has bought Every thing requisite for the purpose here, as this is the Case hope our Goods will be restored at once, that Our Intentions with respect to the disposal of them, may be Carryed into Execution you will much oblige me by applying to the Governor & Council for an Order to Col[o] Ford, to restore what he may have Seized to M[r] Campbell, wou'd not ask this did the Service of the publick require them, but

as Enough has been provided In a manner more Agreeable, I trust my request will be Granted, and I flatter myself its needless to mention that the proprietors of the Goods in Question have on all Occasions Contributed with pleasure as far as their ability would permit to the public Service had the Goods been here wou'd have sold them with pleasure for the purpose intended, but the manner they are Now Situated, it will be attended with manifest disadvantage holding them from us, request your attention to this business and hope you'l Excuse the trouble Given you—the letter herewith please forward Mr Campbell first Conveyance, by post, if None other offers the packet by a safe & private hand

June 26
Red Book
No. 27
Letter 106

[H. Hollingsworth, Head of Elk, to His Excellency, Thomas Sim Lee, Esqr, In Council.]

June 26
Red Book
No. 30
Letter 87

And please your Excellency & Honours Flattering myself (ere now) that the Legislature has fallen on some mode to enable their Servants to execute their orders, from which consideration duty obliges me as one of them, to acquaint your Excellency and Honours of my situation, circumstance and necessitys, at the time I had the honour of being appointed by the Honourable Legislature to superintend the collecting, cureing & delivering the specific supply of provisions of the Eastern shore, it did not appear to me (nor do I believe it did to the Honourable Legislature) that I was to handle any money, or have any thing to do with the expence of forwarding the provisions, this I understand was to be done by the County commissarys, they were to forward their provisions to me, and were to pay all freights waggonage &c—had this continued to be the case I should have been happy in receiving no money, as I should have wanted none, or had very few disbursements, a little coopering, cask nails, and a few trifleing expenditures, would have been all that I should been at, but as the case now stands tis very difficult, I am to be at the expence of forwarding all the provisions from Snow Hill upward which tis not in my power to do without being enabled by your Excellency & Honours, the last Brigade of waggons that I sent down refused to go unless I would pay them in something permanent, I thought Corn an Article that the state could easiest furnish and of course engaged to pay them six bushels of corn ꝑ day by which a considerable saving was made to the State, as waggonage then here was from 15/ to 17/6 ꝑ day (hawling private property, and be paid once a week) I acquainted your Excellency & Honours of this, and understood it approved of £500 State money was sent me to defray the expence of this Service, it did no more then pay for their forage, while on the service I contracted with Mr Tilghman (through Mr Abram Falioner) for two thousand Bushels of Corn, which I promised myself would assist to defray the Expence of this hauling apart of which I received and as Colo Yeates was in great difficulty for forage, and I

June 26 Red Book No. 30 Letter 87

had your order to Supply him with some Corn. I let him have a part of what I received and as no more money is like to be paid, I am like to get no more Corn whither tis kept back by Mr Tilghman or Mr Falioner. I cant say nor is it worth my enquiry, as I have nothing to pay either of them with; this matter affected me much as I assured the waggoners (who chiefly own the Teams) that they should be paid on their return, which I was confident your Excellency & Honours would have enable me to have done, distressing as this then seemed, tis now more so, Col° Smith agent for the State has applyed to me with your order for 1500 Barrels flour, which I am doing all in my power to procure, all this flour is either in meal ground down (the middlings and flour together) or in wheat now grinding to make good flour, the better half of the Meal and wheat is in the lower Countys yet, Col° Smith has earnest urged me to get the flower ready as soon as possible, and has acquainted me with the cause, which to comply with I have agreed with Mills here to boult the flour over again, have got bran to mix with it, and have sent what Meal is here (about three hundred Barrels to the Mills which is now boulting) have sent a Vessel at Col° Smiths request to Col° Dallam for a Load of wheat, (which he has more than he can Manufacture) I have sent another Vessel to Messrs Baruch Williams & John Voorheese for a Load of flour and Meal, and Intended sending one of those Vessels as soon as they returned to the Head of Corsica for some flour Meal and pork that I expected to have hauled there from the Head of Choptank, and this day called on the waggoners which were down at Snow Hill before, to get them to go on this Service, who flattly refuses to go, unless I will pay them off their old arrearage due since they were down before, this is so reasonable that it is out of my power to expostulate with them, though not in my power to comply with Col° Smith has assured me that any expence on the flour after it is flour shall be paid by him, or out of the Sales of it, but the getting it here, lays with your Excellency & Honours I am indebted to the owners of the Vessels that brought the last two loads of provisions, the present is the last load they will go for unless paid; I can do, as much as any man in America at this port, but can go no further without your assistance, if money cant be had with you, Tobacco or flour will bring it in Philadelphia, and I'le take any trouble of getting either of those articles there, and selling them, or do any thing in my power to keep the wheels going, but if my hands cannot be strengthened, tis useless to keep me in office, as I can be no longer of essential service to my Country,

P. S. Since the year 1775 I have done buisnis for this State have always settled my accounts once a year and sometimes oftener, and have never setled one that there was not a Considerable ballance due me, three of these Ballances now remain due, besides a Large Ballance from the United States, if ever I clear'd a dollar by the service

of either, I never have had the pleasure of counting it, I dont mention this as a complaint, I ever looked on it that my County had a right to my Services, in any way that my weak abillitys was equal to. I mention it to shew your Excellency and Honors that I am Exausted, and tis impossible I should be otherways, I never spared a shilling of my own when I had it, either to save this State, or the United States while in either of their services, and my accounts will prove what I say

June 26
Red Book
No. 30
Letter 87

[Sam. Smith, Balt., to the Hon. James Brice, Esqr.]

June 26
Red Book
No. 27
Letter 105

I am Honor'd with yours of yesterday. The articles of Rum, Sugar, Coffee Tea & Soap require Cash to purchase them, therefore I fear it will not be in my power to supply them so soon as the officers will want them. I Have allready made Contract for more than the amo^{t} of property put in my Hands, owing to the great failure of the supply from Mr Hollingsworth. The Supply now required will take at least sixty H^{hds} Tobacco, if that together with the 100 H^{hds} before requir'd should be put into the Hands of Mr Muir I may on the Credit of them procure the articles requir'd. For I assure you on my Honor, I can get no Credit as Agent. They will only sell to me as a private person, the sellers look not to the State, but to me, by this Means I Have Bo^{t} on the very best Terms. Drums & fifes cannot be had in less than 3 weeks they are all to make. I shall send to Philad^{a} they must follow with many other things, I shall forward everything I Have prepar'd this Evening

[Chas. Thomson, Secry, Philadelphia, to Gov. Lee.]

June 26
Red book
No. 8
Letter 10

Upon the completion of the Confederacy by the Accession of the State of Maryland the United States in Congress Assembled thought proper to revise the regulations respecting captures and for that purpose on the 27th of March last passed an ordinance of which I have the honor of enclosing a copy and conformable thereto on the 7th of April Ordained and established rules and instructions to be observed by the Captains or commanders of private armed Vessels commissioned by letters of Marque or general reprisals

This having occasioned a change in the commission &^{c} the board of Admiralty have not been able before this time to furnish this office with the new forms and hence has arisen the delay in supplying your State. I now embrace the earliest opportunity of forwarding twelve commissions with an equal number of bonds and Instructions. You will be so obliging as to order the bonds when executed to be returned to this office together with such of the old commissions as may remain that your State may be credited for them.

P. S. There are several vessels in Virginia which want commissions, the deranged state of affairs in that commonwealth having induced some of the owners & masters to apply to Congress it is Judged proper to refer them to you

June 27 [Jos^{a} Beall, Lieu^{t} P^{s} G^{s} C^{ty} to His Excell. Thomas Simm Lee Esqr]

Inclosed is a return from the Field Officers of the Upper Battalion of this County, for Commissions to fill up Vacancys in that Batt^{ln} I have not yet receiv^{d} the commissions for the other Select Company in this County, who seem impatient to be on Duty. At the Earnest request of Samuel Beall son of Richard late of Montgomery County, I have taken the liberty of recommending him as a Lieu^{t} or Ensigne in the two Battalions that are now to be raised.

List of Com^{s} wanting for the Upper Battalion of Prince Georges County.

Capt^{ns}

Samuel Shekell in place of Wm Moore who has left the County com^{d}
Robert B. Tyler in Place of Benjn Harwood who has resigned com^{d}

1st Lieut^{s}

Robert Tilley in Shekell's Comp^{y}
Thomas Lyles in Tylers C^{o}
William Wilson in Selby's C^{o}

2^{d} Lieut^{s}

John Landsdell in Tyler's Comp^{y}
Adam Craig in Shekell's C^{o}
Calib Clark in Duvall's C^{o}
William Jackson in Selbys C^{o}

Ensigns

George Moore Junr in Shekell's Comp^{y}
Joseph Wells in Tyler's C^{o}
John White in Whites C^{o}
Charles Duvall in Duvalls C^{o}
Josiah Selby in Selby's C^{o}

June 27
Red Book
No. 8
Letter 5

[Sam Huntington, President, Philadelphia, to His Excellency, Governor Lee.]

The Regiment of Invalids being at the Desire of the Commander in Chief forthwith to be removed from this City to garrison West point on the North River, Congress have thought it expedient to pass the enclosed Resolve of the 26th Instant, recommending to the States of Delaware Maryland & Virginia to settle with the Officers & Men of that Regiment who are Citizens of those states respectively, on Certificates from the Commanding Officer without requiring personal Attendance to liquidate their Accounts for Depreciation.

[Edw[d] Gaither, Jr. Commissary of Provisions for A. A. County, Elk Ridge, to Tho. Sim Lee, Esq[r]] (By Mr. Stewart) June 27

Please to give Mr. David Stewart the bearer hereof an Order in my favour on the Treasuary for One Hundred Pounds State Money to defray the expences in the execution of my Office.

[T. Donnellan, Baltimore, to Gov. Lee.] June 28

Am this day Honored with your Excellencys letter of the 25th Instant appointing me to Receive & provide Quarters & Necessarys in this Town for Recruits to be raised.

Am very much obliged to your Excellency & your Honorable Council for the Confidence your pleased to Repose in me. Must set out the begining of next week for Philadelphia & expect to be back early the week after; If at my Return 'twill be time enough to enter upon the business shall cheerfully engage in it. This being agreeable, your Excellency will be pleased to Instruct me what the necessarys are that I am to provide & furnish me with means to obtain them.

[Henry Hooper, Dorchester County, to the Governor in Council.] June 28

I have sent fourteen draughted Militia Men under the Care of Lieut[t] Hugh McGuire, procured under a late Act of Assembly, to serve in the Continental Army untill the 10th Day of December next. A List of their Names you have inserted below—several of them have been Waterman & seem very desirous of serving on board some of our Barges, particularly Peter Harrington, Job Hubbert, Roger Tregoe & Anthony Tall Jun[r]—Inclosed you have Col[o] Dickinson's and Lieu[t] Col[o] Jones's Lists of Officers wanting in their Battalions be pleased to send Commissions for them as Oppertunity will permit. I have desired M[r] McGuire to apply to your Board to satisfy him for transporting the draughted Men to Annapolis.

John Wheeler, Nehemiah Lingard, John Dicks, Samuel Hurst, Levin Thomas, Ezekiel Whitchocks, Job Hubbert, William Procter Jun[r], Nathan Busick, Anthony Tall Jun[r] Roger Trego, Peter Herrington, John Booth, William Dickinson

[Jas. Skinner, Inspector, Calvert County, to Gov. Lee.] June 28 Red Book No. 27 Letter 107

This is to inform you that there is a boat taking of State Tobacco From Hunters Creek Ware house & cant get a full Freight I have 14 H[hds] of Tobacco Prized & should be glad to put it on board if you would give me Orders, the Ware house is so full of Tobacco that we scarcely have room for any more, the Skipper have agreed to wait untill the Return of the Post, therefore I should be glad to have a spedy answer

June 29
Red Book
No. 27
Letter 110

[Sam Smith, Balt., to Gov. Lee.]

This Day the three weeks is out in which I engag'd to furnish the Clothing & to morrow the whole will be ready except a few of the Coats (their Delay is owing to a want of Red Cloth & of Buttons neither of which was procurable either here or in Philad[a]) & Blankets which are not obtainable any where, However the Troops are so Supplied that they will have five Blankets to every Six Men. If there should be a greater Number of Recruits than was at first Imagin'd I ought to be Imm[y] Inform'd. The Rum & Coffee I forwarded to Anapolis & all the soap procurable here, The Sugar requir'd was forwarded by Col Dorsey. The Drums & fifes cannot be furnish'd for this Detachment in any reasonable Time, I Have wrote to Philad[a] for them & more Tent Cloth, there not being more than necessary for 50 Tents & officers Tents in this place, The Tobacco on Choptank I sold yesterday for Hard Cash at 15/ ꝑ 100[lbs] M[r] Poe Informs me that unless the Tents goes thro: his Department the Continent will not acco[t] for them, His Deputy M[r] Swan will Carry this, & will pass receipts for them, if you are of the same opinion

500	Coats @	80/	2000
300	Jackets	30/	450
1000	p[r] Overalls	20/	1000
1000	Shirts	25/	1250
212	p[r] Woolen Hose	10/	100
500	Hatts	7/8	187..10
191	Blanketts	50/	477..10
102¾	yds. Sup[r] Cloth @	5£	510
404	p[r] Breeches	20/	464
400	Stocks @	/⅙	30
6	p[r] thread Hose	20/	6
68	Camp Kettles	20/	68
			6629

8	Horsemans Tents		400
50	Tents	11/5	500
			900
			6629
			7589
			600
			8189

20 yds.
120 yds @ 7/6. 45

[James Sulivane, Com^y D. Co^ty to His Excellency Thomas Sim Lee Esqr] (p Capt. Pitt)

June 29
Red Book
No. 27
Letter 108

Inclosed you have an Invoice of what goods there is to be purchased at present in this County fit for Soldiers Clothing, am offered a small parcel of white linnen but think they are too fine they will cost about 26/ p yard if you think linnen at that price will do the persons still keeps them for my Answer

I wrote you a Small time ago that I was much distressed for Money to discharge the debts answering on the com^ys Bussiness & Indeed I cannot get Barrels for the publick flour until I have a Supply of Money, the sooner I can be furnished the more Sencable it will oblige Sir Your very Humble Servant.

An account of sundrys purchased by James Sulivane of Dorset County for Soldiers Clothing, June 20, 1781

26¼	y^ds d^o blanketing @	15/	£19..13..9
21¾	y^ds white Linnen	10/	10..17..6
7¼	y^ds Ditto Ditto	11/3	4.. 1..7
30	yd^s [illegible] Cloth	37/6	56.. 5..0
9	Hatts	33/9	15.. 3..9
			£105..18..7

[Sam Smith, Balt., to The Honble James Brice, Esq, Annapolis]

June 29
Red Book
No. 27
Letter 111

I am honor'd by yours of the 26th which I this Moment rec^d I rec^d a few Notes from Mr Muir on Choptank, which I sold Imm^y at 15/ specie & rec^d the Money, when I Can make such sales It is much better to sell at the warehouses than to forward to Philad. as you will see at Bottom. All the Tobacco I Have hitherto rec^d is either sold or on its way to Philad^a except that in George Town. The Exigencies of my Department are such as make quick sales sometimes necessary. The Contracts I Have already made are more than sufficient to swallow up all the property in my Hands. Indeed I Have already myself purchas'd Nearly all the Clothing to Compleat the Law; that is for such of the Troops of this State in the Continental Service as are now in this State & for such as are now raising. I found no occasion for seizing, every person was willing to sell & at much lower prices than they would Cost by seizures—This way pleases—Seizures, altho more is promis'd, Occasions much Dissaffection among the People. I cannot Imm^y make a return of particular articles but you may depend on 500 Compleat suits of Clothes which are principally on the Soldiers & the whole will be the Beginning of next week. I Have already Supplied Mr Muir & Mr Keeport p acc^t Inclos'd

June 30
Red Book
No. 22
Letter 12

[Dan'l Jenifer, Portobacco, to Gov. Lee]

This Serves to inform your Excellency that after much fatigue or exertion, trouble, and bearing much illiberal abuse; I have compleated the quota of Horses for this County (35 are already branded) tho' not all so good as I cou'd wish, some being impressed against my inclination. My intention was to have furnished the best in the County, but was defeated in my purpose. The N° wou'd have been compleated in a few days had it not have been for the Refractoriness of a few and the wickedness of others; in endeavouring by insinuations to down the Credit of the certificates; Thomas Crackels and Sam[l] Mitchell ought to be made immediate examples of as does M[r] Walter Hanson Jun[r] who deserves the Greater chastisem[t] because he is, or ought to a Gent. Crackels sent his Horse to Marlbro and Mitchel hath conceald his. Hanson hath been very abusive and busy in crying down the Cred[t] of the pay Two attempts have been made to get his horse (but both times he and his horse were from home) not that he can well spare him, but all those who speak in the strain he has lately done ought in my opinion to be made Smart. I shou'd Esteem it a favor if your Ex[cy] and the Council woud give immediate orders for the removal of the Horses, as they have been and are still a very heavy Burden upon my son (D[r] Jenifer) He has but few hands and they greatly hurt with the fatigue of Watching every night, a very valuable pasture which he kept purposely for his Mares and Colts He readily gave up to the use of the State. It is now eaten quite bare, and he is oblig'd to have Grass cut every day to feed the brutes with; there not being a pasture worth a button to be had in the neighborhood. The people set to Watch, some times fall asleep and then the Horses Commit Trespasses upon an adjacent Meadow and cornfield; 30 have been in two nights running. I hope Sir that those reasons will be a sufficient apology for my pressing to have them taken away. I cou'd wish Sir that some of the Horses here recd were ordered to be restored and others that are better taken in their place, as there are several very good ones to be had belonging to young fellows, who ought either to spare their Horses, or render personal Service, a valuable horse belonging to M[r] George Kent (who is a good whig) I shou'd be glad to have orders to return as he was the only Horse his wife cou'd ride, when I took him I thought the case urgent and that no time was to be lost or I shou'd not have taken him. As to M[r] Ridgates Goods they are so trifling I have not as yet done any thing with them, more than to forbid the sale of any of the Hats (except the Boys) Enclosd is the Invoice which he delivered me 16 yards of Firze seems to be napt Cotton and the Linnen sorry. The Hats which he calls Carton are Carolina felts and N° 1. 2 & 3 of the felts are only fit for small Boys. The others may do for Soldiers which if your Ex[cy] and the Council think worth having I shall take your Ex[y] will see whether this Invoice corresponds with the one sent

to the Governor and Council. I confess that I must think that Mr Ridgate had more Goods but what has become of them he best knows. Mr Wm Leigh is to deliver a well fixt Waggon and geers at any place your Ex^cy^ shall order in hire of an Horse, the Waggon he is to purchase up the Country. There are no Bridles or Geers rec'd with the Draft Horses, the bridles which the planters generally work with here, are nothing more then a p^s^ of crooked Iron with a p^s^ of Rope or Cow hide for head stals and Reins, I have therefore purchased about 30^l^ of Rope for Halters. I hope that your Ex^y^ will excuse this incoherent scrawl as I can scarce hold my head up having rode with a fever every day this week.

June 30 Red Book No. 22 Letter 12

As soon as the Horses are Del^d^ I shall be at Annapolis.

[Robt. Smith, Havana, to Gov. Lee.]

June 30 Red Book No. 27 Letter 99

I have the Honor of your Ex^ys^ Letter of the 10th ult. delivered to me in the absence of Mr Robt Dorsey, who has not yet return'd to this Place. The Flour of the Cargoe of the Sloop Porpoise, which was something damag'd by being so long on board, arriv'd at a Time when this Market had been already glutted & I have not yet been able to dispose of it, the smallness of the bbls is a considerable objection to the Sale, & I recommend it as worthy of attention, in any Parcel intended in future for this Market, that the bb^les^ should at least weigh 2 C. w^t^ I do not despair of selling this Flour in a short Time & I shall take the first opportunity of doing it, for the reason, which I have already mentioned, This Article, has been down as low as $21 & 22½ ꝑ 2 c^t^ It has lately been rather on the rise & some light bb^ls^ have sold as high as $25 & some heavier at $27 however I have not been able as yet to get either of these Prices for yours, I am the more easy on that Head because I am enabled, from a Prize bro^t^ in by Capt. Weems & from what remains in my Hands, of the Fox's Cargoe, to remit you as much as I think it proper to risque on one Occasion I now inclose you Invoice for 116 Cases, Sugars, 115 Hides & 20 pounds Jalap, which are the only articles of your order that can be procur'd here I have already had the Honor to inform you, in my Letter of the 28th April by the Fox, which I have the Pleasure to hear is arrived with you, that no Stores or Cloathing could be expected here since I have been here the Families of the City have been without Salt to eat & that article is always very scarce & very dear. I have not been able to collect 5 Pounds of Jesuits Bark & for that altho of an inferior Kind, I am ask'd $4 ꝑ lb. I also remit you $——— upon this occasion, as since my last Acco^ts^ from Delaware are more favorable & because money will turn out nearly as well, as any of the Articles to be had here.

[Invoice filed in Red Book No. 27 Letter 100-B]

P. S. I now inclose acco^t^ Sale for the Flour of the Sloop Porpoise at $24 ꝑ bb^l^ I was afraid to risque the great Heat of this country any longer, as the Flour has already suffer'd from being so long on

[Account filed in Red Book No. 27 Letter 100]

[Account filed in Red Book No. 27 Letter 100]

board I am prevented putting $6000 on board which I intended because the vigilance is redoubled at the Custom House, on acco^{t} of some of the Porpoise's People, being detected in carrying off Money as Capt. Weems cannot stay longer on acco^{t} of an Embargo which will take Place after To-morrow.

[Inclosure]

June 10 Red Book No. 27 Letter 100-A

Shipped by Robt Smith in good order & Condition, by Robt Smith, in the Sloop Porpoise Wm Weems master one hundred sixteen cases Sugar, one hundred & fifteen Hides & 20 pounds Jalap, on acco^{t} & risque of the State of Maryland & to be deliver'd to the Governor & Council or to their order (the Danger of the Sea & of the Enemy excepted) Freight free, In witness whereof the Master of the said Sloop hath affirm'd to three Bills of Lading all of this Tenor & Date at Havana. 30th June 1781

Wm Weems

June 30 [John Murdock, Montgomery County, to His Exc^{y} The Governour and The Honble The Council]

The Bearer Lieut^{t} Nicholls of Captain Nicholls's Company of select Militia, waits on you on Purpose to know whether all the select Militia now stationed at George Town, may not be discharged in Order to secure their Harvests, until further Orders.

I understand there are many of them who will suffer greatly by their continuing on Duty; and as it doth not at present appear that there is much Danger from the Enemy, A Respite may be very advantageous, not only to them, but probably to the State.

[June] [See, Votes and Proceedings of the House of Delegates of the State of Maryland, May Session, 1781]

[Members of the House of Delegates]

We promise to become Subscribers of the Sums affixed to our names on the scheme for an Emission in pursuance of the Act for the Emission of Bills of Credit not exceeding Two hundred Thousand Pounds on the Security of double the Value in Lands to defray the expences of the present Campaign

Philip Key five hundred pounds	500
Edm^{d} Plowden five hundred pounds	500
John Cadwalader one thousand pounds	1000
J. Hall five hundred pounds	500
Nic^{ls} Worthington one Hundred Pounds	100
Frisby Freeland Two Hundred pounds	200
Thomas Gantts Two Hundred Fifty Pounds	250
E. Johnson Two Hundred pounds	200
Warren Dent Two hundred pounds	200
G. B. Causin. three hundred & fifty Pounds	350
Cha. Ridgely of Wm Three hundred pounds	300
Edwd Lloyd Two Thousand Pounds	2000
John Winder two hundred Pounds	200
Arthur Whiteley Two Hundred pounds	200

John Ward one hundred pounds	100	[June]
Peter Lawson Two Hundred pounds	200	[See,
Tim. Kirk one Hundred[d] Pounds	100	Votes and Proceedings
David Crawfurd five Hundred Pounds	500	of the House of
Tho. Duckett two hundred Pounds	200	Delegates
Thomas Clagett Two Hundred & Fifty pounds	250	of the State of
W. Bruff Two Hundred & Fifty Pounds	250	Maryland,
James Kent Two hundred pounds	200	May Session,
Samuel Chase five hundred pounds	500	1781]
Allen Quynn one Hundred pounds	100	
W[m] Morris one Hundred and Eighty pounds	180	
Joseph Dashiell Two Hundred pounds	200	
Tho. Johnson Eight hund[d] pounds	800	
Tho. Beatty Two Hundred pounds	200	
Benj. Bradford Norris one hundred pounds	100	
James Giles Three Hundred Pounds	300	
Mark Alexander Two hundred & fifty pounds	250	
David McMechen one Hundred pounds	100	
James Chapline Two hundred & fifty Pounds	250	
John Barnes five hundred pounds	500	
Tho[s] Cramphin J[r] Four hundred pounds	400	
William Bayly J[r] One hundred pounds	100	
Laurence O Neale Three hundred pounds	300	
	12,580	
William Brogden Four Hundred pounds	400	
	12,980	
Will[m] Fitzhugh one Hundred Pounds	100	

[Jacob Lusby to Gov. Lee.] [June]

I have Made Bould To Trouble your Exclence with a few Lines, and Begg you will please to Excuse My freedom in order to aquaint your Exclence, with some Misconduct of Mine which was Dun through ignorence, and a word your Exclence said to me, M[r] Sairs Com to me at the Time the British Ships Lay of against Town with Ann order to Remove all the Boats up the River To M[r] Caleb Burgesses to be put under Gard, I had two ferrey Boats, one atending the ferrey, the other up the Creek, and Bouth very Leekey, and upon Suden Changes of Norwest winds this Side of the River being very flatte we have Had the Boat in tendence Left a ground for 2 or 3 Days and then by having the other up the Creek on Deeper water Could allways keep one to Go, and as your Exclence well Knew, that Exprese's was Guine Every Day & very often in the Night, I thought it would be of Grater predugess to the publick to Carrey the Boat away then to keep her Redey in Case of any thing Happening to Stop

[June] the other, these Reasons I Give Mr Saire, and furder Told him I would aply to your Exclence and Col^{o} Brice, which I Did acordingle, the Colo^{n} said I Must aply to your Exclence & the Hono^{ble} Councel, which I atended near the Day, but the Doore keeper Tould me your Hon^{r} Had Just Received some Newes, that you had then under Consideration and I Could not be permitted in, this Sir was on a Saturday which Just at Night, I meet your Exclence Comming up to the Court House, & Mr Bulling with you, and as you passed me I asked your Exelence if I Must Remove the ferrey Boats your Reply was by no means, on this I Rested my self Content and on Sunday Morning Mr Sairs Com again, and I Related the above to him, but he still insisted, and I Refused to help with the Boat, and am Likle to be find, and as it is the first Trespass, and on what your Exelence said To me, I Humble Begg your Marcey in Speaking to Colo Brice or Tootell for me as I have oft Time Heard, your Exelence would not Refuse the petition of the poore, I Did not meen to Do any Harm to any man Liven, and as to the Cause of my Cuntra I will abide by till Death, from your Most obedent Hu^{ble} Servt

N. B. If your Exclence should Rember this, I Ever will acknowledge it the Gratest favour, if you will please to Certifie it by aline or Two, as your Exclence knowes the fins are Heave and I have a large famely, which I can Scarce Metain with all I can Do, I therefore Shall Ever Esteame it a favour, of your Excelence, & Remain with Due Respect, your Excelence Most Obedent Hu^{l} Sev^{t}

[June] [Christ. Orendorff. Information ab^{t} the Conspiracy in Washington & Fred. Countys]

Inform^{a} of Christian Orendorff.

about a Fortnit ago Henry Newcomer of Washington County came to him in Shaftsburgh and called him out of his Father's House and asked what he thought of these Times, answered the Times were very bad & precarious—he then asked if he thought the King would over-come this Country answered he thought he might. I'm sure he will overcome the Country and Orendorff if you will keep it a secret I lead you into a Matter of great Importance—answered he would he said we have raised a Body of Men for the Service of the King and we thought proper to make appl^{n} to you to go to N York for a Fleet, asked how many Men they had raised he said upwards of 6000—asked who was the Commanding officer of the Party, answered one Fritchy of Fred. Town a Dutch Man dont know his Christian Name—ordered Orndorf to go to his House and he would shew him the Man went to his House and rode with him to Fred. Town but did not go to Fritchy's House. Newcomer informed him Fritchy would not see him in Town but would meet him ten Miles from Town—he met him and then took him aside and said he understood Orndorf was let in to a Matter that was carrying on now. Orndorf

said to him I understood you are the commanding Officer—Fritchy [June]
said he was and told Orndorf the Name of the Man in Virginia from whom he received Instructions to recruit but has forgot the name—asked why they pitched upon him; said because he had been in N. York so long they thought he was the fittest Person if he would undertake it—though they were not quite ready for a Thing of that sort. Orndorf desired him to get the Names of all the Officers which he promised to do—before they parted Fritchy told him not to disclose what he had communicated Orndorf replied he would sooner sacrifice his Life than do it.

Orndorf told him to get ready as soon as he could and let him know it and he said he would & as soon as he was Orndorf should be informed of it—and then he said some of his officers were so violent for it that he was afraid it would be made public—asked who they were he said one Kelly a Lawyer & an Irishman who lives in the mountains about twelve or fourteen miles from Fred Town—had no further Conversation with Fritchy.

After Orndorf rode four or five miles along the main Road Newcomer said Orndorf you look so dead I'm afraid you ruin the matter; answered not at all Sir—says keep it a Secret whatever you do, for we will soon give these Fellows a damn Threshing—said as we are not ready I must send my Boy up to the South Mountain and let them know We are not ready yet. Our Boys are so violent we can hardly keep them in—said he sent an Express last week to Lancaster to hush them a little while longer—he slapt Orndorf on the shoulder and said I am so glad as if I had £10000 we have got you Orndorf for they could not get one so proper for the Expedition as you are—said we have consulted one another a great while and were afraid to mention the Matter on your Father's Account as we knew him to be a violent Rebel—and then they parted and Newcomer went towards Hagers Town. Newcomer lives within five or six Miles of Hagar's Town.

two or three Days after Orndorf got Home Bleacher one of the Captains came to him and called him out aside and said I understand you are let into a Secret that is going on now—answered he was—and said I suppose you are one of the Officers. Bleacher said he was Orndorf asked him what Rank he was—he answered a Captain. Orndorf asked how many men he had recruited he said he had fifty men. Orndorf asked him to let him look at his Warr[t] he said he had it not about him and made it a Rule not to carry it about him. Orndorf asked him to put it in his pocket and bring it to his House and shew it to him, he said he would—and then Orndorf asked him how he managed to make known his Doings to those he wanted to join him he said he had applied to twenty that had refused him and asked Orndorf how he thought he must have felt after being refused—said to Orndorf you are acquainted with our Secrets and if

[June] you expose them you must abide by the Consequences. Orndorf asked him how he thought they would do if he went & brought the Fleet to George Town for you have no arms Bleacher said they would mount on Horses and ride down there and receive their arms for the Troops in the State could not hinder them—and further said he could take the Magazine in Fred. Town with their Men—and then they parted.

Orndorf was at one Tinkles (who lives nigh to Kelly) who told him Jacob Young was informed of the Matter—made answer and said why is Jacob Young informed of the Matter—he said he was—Orndorf said why Jacob Young will certainly expose the Matter for he is a Magistrate—he said he would not.

[June] [The Memorial of John Parks late of Hagers Town now Resident in Baltimore to His Exc^y Thomas Sim Lee Esqr]

Respectfully Sheweth That your Memorialist has resided for some time past in Hagers Town, but for these last two years lived in Baltimore, a Peaceable and unmolested Citizen.

Since the late insurrection in Hagers Town, some Persons, devested, and acting repugnant, to every Principle, that might actuate the Honest Man, have maliciously, and from designing motives of Falicy been induced, to Propagate a Report, intimating that your Memorialist, was interested, and accessory, to the Design, and Intentions of those Insurgents, which your Memorialist, conscious of the Line he always Pursued, of Amity to America, totally disavows; deeming it repugnant, and odious to his Feelings, as a Citizen, and Friend to this Country.

The above was intimated to Coll^o Samuell Smith, who with several others Residenters of this Place, in the Night of the 23^d June, searched the House, and most Private Papers of your Memorialist; when the Coll^o was fully satisfied, that He had nothing, which had the least Tendency, or aimed at a Subfersion of the Liberties, or good Peace of this Country, from whence your Memorialist was Carried to Goal, where he now is, and on the 25th was ordered before, and Reexamined by the Coll^o and Chief of the Majestrates of this Town, who found nothing in him Condemnable, or a Foundation on which, they cou'd Derive the most distant Idea, of your Memorialist being Concerned, when he was Remanded to Prison, there to Endure the unfortunate deprivation of Liberty, and Intercourse with his family.

Your Memorialist begs leave to inform your Exc^y that he has a Wife, and several small Children, who will be Liable to every incident, that may accrue from his being bereived of Liberty, and they being unprotected.

Your Memorialist therefore, conscious of his Innocence, and Aversion to what he is accused of and well Convinced of your Exc^y known Justice and Candour, most Respectfully intreats, your Exc^y will

make an immediate Investigation of the Facts alledged against him, [June]
that if Guilty he may Suffer Condign Punishment, worthy of the Attrocious Crime; but if found innocent, (which your Memorialist has not the least Fears of) that his Liberation may be Effected.

Your Memorialist begs Excuse for his Intrusion, and Doubts not it will be Received with Candour, and that your Excell^{y} will be Pleased to Scrutinize into his Complaint, and from the Nature of the Case be Deemed worthy your Exc^{y} Attention.

[Capt. John Reid's Mem^{o}] [June]

Mem^{n} for Captn Davis to apply to the Govr & Council for their order on Mr Eglen to furnish Capt Reids men with the following articles of Cloathing also to mention to them, to request Mr Eglen to have them made up & should they make any hesitation in Granting the order he will be pleas'd to urge the measure by representing their naked situation of the men & the absolute necessity of Granting it.

Articles wanting; 12 Hatts, 12 Coats, 12 Jacketts, 12 pair Overalls, 40 Shirts, 7 Blanketts.

[John Simmes, Charles Co To His Excelleney Thomas Sim Lee Esqr Governor and the Honourable Council] [June]

The Petition of John Simmes of Charles County most Humbly Sheweth that your Petitioner is one of the Draughts from Charles County to serve in the Continental Army for nine months. Your Petitioner being now in the forty ninth year of his Age but very weakly in his Constitution and has a Humour in his Eye which renders him incable to bear the fatiagues of a Campaign your Petitioner also has a very large family to support by his own Labour, which should be obliged to Join the Army must suffer they being most of them very young. Your Petitioner therefore most Humbly prays your Honours to take his case into Consideration and grant him such relief as to your Honours shall think meet. And your Petitioner in duty bound will pray &c.

John Simmes

We the subscribers Inhabitants of Charles County and well Acquainted with the above Petitioner do recommend him to your Excellencys Clemency and do aver that the facts in the above Petition are true.

James Simms, Thomas A. Dyson, Ja^{s} Russell; Jno Gwinn, Francis Posey, W. Winter, Edwd Semmes, Joseph Boarman, Leonard Boarman Junier, Leonard Boarman Sener, Neighbour to the above Junier, Wm F. Noble, John Baker Wathen, Oswald Edelen, Ign^{s} Simpson, Henry Sympson.

[June] Blue Book No. 4 Letter 51

[The Petition of Solomon Plummer of Talbot County to His Excellency Thomas Simm Lee Esquire]

Humbly Sheweth. That Your Excellencies Petitioner (under a late Act of Assembly) among the other Militia of the County afs[d] have been Classed, and draughted as an able bodied man; Tho' very infirm for some years past occasioned by an Imposthum in his Breast that broak, & left him in a decline (as he thinks) which has rendered him unable to work or do duty as a Soldier in the Field, and now prevents him from marching out with the Draughts from the County afs[d] agreable to orders of the Lieutenant and thereby has incured the Penalty of said Act.

Your Petitioner being so unfortunately circumstanced, Humbly requests the interposition of Your Excellency in his behalf; that would be pleased to stay all further Prosecution against him for not complying with the terms of the said Act or grant him such relief as to Your Excellency shall seem mete

And Your Petitioner as in duty bound Will Pray

We the Subscribers do Certify that the above facts are true.

Moses X (his mark) Butler, Thomas Plummer, John Plummer

July 1

[Tho[s] Beall of Geo for T Richardson Com[y] Geo. Town, to His Excellency Tho[s] S. Lee Esq[r]]

I have heard; within these few days that Gen[l] Smallwood was to be this way in a few days, if so I hope M[r] Jn[o] S. Brookes will send some Supply's of flesh Provisions; as I have not more than one Beef left for the Select Militia, M[r] Jn[o] S. Brookes was by letter to have sent some Cattle to this post last Tuesday but what has prevented him, I yet Cannot learn

July 1 Red Book No. 27 Letter 113

[George Stricker, Frederick Town, to the Council.]

Agreeable to the Late Act of Assembly I have Seized for the use of the County thirty six Horses of the Number Assigned for this County Two of which I have Delivered to the Lieutenant of the County for Particular uses as he Informed me, and Promised me his Indemnification & the Majority of them are Draft Horses, and as pasture at this Time is Difficult to Procure & although I got a very good Meadow on my own Credit, as they did not Chuse to Credit the publick for which I am to pay Twenty five pounds, and the Number of Horses will soon Reduce it, although feeding them Twice a day on Indian Corn and Brand, I shall therefore stop Collecting any more as I can get the Difficent Number in a very short Time, as I have them allready Pointed Out, and have been under the Necessity of applying to the Lieutenant for a Guard, as I have had the fences

laid Down and the Horses Turned out, I suppose by Ill designing persons should therefore be Desirous of having those Taking of my hands or to have further Information therein

July 1
Red Book
No. 27
Letter 113

[Robert Duvall Prince George County, to Col. James Brice, Annapolis]

July 2

I am much obliged to his Excellency the Governor and Council, for their good opinion of my patriotison and Zeal, in support of the Independance of America, and am sorry to inform you, that it is my being much indispos'd that has prevented me from acting as a Recruiting officer; having been under the Doctor's hands since the middle of may, but hope to be well shortly, therefore, if his Excellency the Governor and his Council have it in their power, and may think it Expedient to invest me with full power and authority, to Raise a full Company for three years or During the war, they may be sure of my Exerting the earliest means to Accomplish the matter, which I think I Can do in a very little time.

[P. Key, Chaptico, to the Council]

July 2
Red Book
No. 30
Letter 78

I have received your Excellencys & Honours favor 29th to which I shall pay the utmost attention. My stay at Annapolis retarded the forwarding your Tobacco very much—however I have this day finished shiping on board craft—55 Hhds—25 from Potomack & 30 from Patuxent that I have had carted over, the whole will be forwarded this Month as I have got the business now under my own direction.

If you have any more Tobacco at Chaptico that you wish to forward it can be carted to Patuxent with more ease than from any other House on Patomack & I can engage what carts I want to transport it directly The Tobacco now forwarded is of the best Quality made here & I am very certain most of it will prove good except that at Llewellins I am in hopes the Tobacco now sent will nt the State 23/ clear of charges or at least 22/6

[George Melvin, affidavit taken before J. Dennis.]

July 2
Brown Book
No. 9

George Melvin of full age being sworn on the holy Evangels of Almighty God deposeth and saith that some time in the month of December last past John Gunby came to this Deponents House and upon a quarrel arising between the said Gunby and some other persons the said Gunby threatened them that Capt Dempsie and some other Capt wou'd burn down some of the Houses on Pocomoke, and at the same time the said Gunby said he was a British subject and had been on Board of the Enemy and wou'd go on board again, and this Deponent further saith that at time of the above conversation the afsd Gunby was much intoxicated with liquor

July 2
Red Book
No. 28
Letter 64

[Information of John Anderson a Deserter from one of the british Barges. taken 2nd July 1781. Sworn to in Council before Thos. S. Lee.]

Was in the Resolution 6 weeks and left her at Jone's Island about 3 weeks ago. Joseph Whaland Junr William Timmons Jno and Michael Timmons of Hooper's Streights Brothers, and Shadrack Horseman were in the Barge—and they were there when he came away—the Barge has been up Wiccomico and all about the E. Shore. Whaland & Wm Timmons act as Pilots—plundered the Widow Elsey & a Capt. Evans at the lower Ferry in Wor. believes him to be Evans—the Barge rendezvous at Courtney's Island—she carries 35 men not more than 8 white Men the rest Negroes—commanded by Jno Robinson. 3 Swivels & 2 wall Peices & 35 Musquets—a small Barge with 12 men now commanded by Joseph Whaland—a Barge with 14 or 15 men rendezvous at same place & all under the Command of Robinson that Edwd Fenwick of St Marys County was sevl Times on St George's Island while the Barges were there—he came for a Negro and bot Goods of the Barges—that Josiah Langley of same County brot some Meal for the Barges and went up Potowmack as a Pilot of the Barges & returned in her and left her at St Geos Island. Langly was to carry the Barge to Leonard Town but was fired on by the Militia on the Shore.

July 2
Red Book
No. 9
Letter 127

[Ben. Stoddert, Annapolis, to Gov. Lee.]

I would by no means wish to be troublesome to your Excellency & the Honble Council—but I find myself so disagreeably situated in consequence of my claim on the state arising from my purchase of Genl Gates order of August last, that I cannot forbear soliciting that the circumstances which induced the transaction may be considered, & if possible, that a part of the debt due me, may be paid.

The balance is between £1400 & £1600 specie. I should be extremely happy to receive one half, or if that should be deemed too great a proportion, even one third of it in Tobo at any price that may be fixed upon by your honble Board. If the Tobo is not on hand, orders on the Collectors of Prince Georges & Calvert Counties for Tobo to be recd would answer my purpose. I cannot but flatter myself that the endorsement on the back of my order as follows, " In Council, we hereby agree on behalf of the State of Maryland to pay the within order when the State of the Treasury will admit thereof "—together with the promises to the person from whom I purchased it, that the money should be paid in April—will induce you to consider it in a different situation from other public Debts—the Credit of your honble Board being in some degree pledged for the payment of it—at any rate, I can truly say that I viewed it in this light when I made the purchase, or I should not have made it.

[Joseph Dashiell, Snow Hill to Gov. Lee.] (fav^d by Capt. Handy) July 3 Brown Book No. 9

The Barer Capt Leven Handy has bin kind enough to take Charge of John Traverse, and Conduct him safe to you agreable to your Warent, Inclosed you have Sundry papers &c found upon him when he was taken by Capt Chadwick in one of the Philadelphia barges Your Exc^ly will see by a Petition in his hand Wrighting that he is a person very able to do us a grate deal of Damage, I am in hopes the Inclosed papers &c together with Doyels Evidence will be abundantly enough to deprive him of a life Truely Dangerous to us, The people heare, sho very grate uneasness at his not Receiving his Tryal immediately as they are much afraid he will find means to make his escape, In order to apease the people I was oblidged to promise that if he is Condemnd up the Bay that, I would request that he might be executed in this place, you will find by Capt. Chadwick letters that we have several others in our posestion taken at the same time, as they are not in your Warent, I have not removed them, I have sent all the evidence, that we have against them, and shall wate your Orders, I have Sent out sum Scoutting parties after the Sundry persons mentioned in your warent, as soon as I get them I shall send them forward if I Can git as much mony as will defray the expence of the guard, tho I know not at present, wheather I Can or not as I have bin Oblidged to strain my Credit to git as much as Cary is the present guard forwarded by Capt Handy.

I have not seen Capt Walley since I got home but I am informed that their is a Mistake in Both the Comissions the Capt is for Zodock in stid of Zedekiah Walley of the Protector the Barge in Joseph Handys Commission is Called the proctor I submit wheather the Commissions had not better be Continued as they will often be oblidged to be in Virginea, and with one of Our State Commission, they might be Treated if taken in Virginea as pirates, this is the oppinion of sum heare, that since the Confederation, our Commissions will not be good out of the State. I should be exceding glad you Could send down sum of the Subscription papers as we did not Get any of them before I Came away from Annapolis

I take the liberty to mention Capt. Handy to you who is very Desirous to render his Country every Service in his power if he Can do it by entering into the armey in a station not to Degrade the Commission he has once held in the Armey

N B. I have Inclosed a letter from Col^o Robt Done that gives an Acc^t of the other men left in our Goal.

[H. Hollingsworth, Head of Elk, to His Excellency, Thomas Sim Lee Esqr, in Council.] (fav^d ꝑ Mr Falconer) July 3 Red Book No. 30 Letter 79

And please your Excell^y & honours. I did myself the Honour of writing to you on the 26th of June acquainting of my difficulties in forwarding the Service without money being much in arrears; since

July 3 Red Book No. 30 Letter 79

which I have received the Corn to the amount (in the whole) of nineteen hundred and forty odd Bushels which corn has been of great use to me, and to Col° Yeates, and has kept me in some little Credit with the waggoners, (or rather has kept my credit as a State officer from being Intirely ruined) The bearer Mr Abram Falioner is the Gentleman through whom I have obtained this Corn and who advanced the Cash for it who I appointed to assist me to do the business of this Shore (at the Head of Chester) when the stores and provisions were ordered to be deposited there by your Excellency & Honours, who has been very assidious and rendered considerable Service to this State by which there is a Balance due him of two hundred & Eighty six pounds eighteen shillings and two pence farthing as ꝑ his a/c this day rendered and settled as Mr Falioner has layn a considerable time out of part of this money, and informs me that he will take Tobacco or flour in discharge of it. I have taken the Liberty of ordering on your Excellency & Honours for the above sum,

July 3 Red Book No. 5 Letter 104

[Dan of St Thos Jenifer, Dan'l Carroll and R. Potts, Philadelphia, to Gov. Lee.]

The Comsy of Military Stores informs us that he forwarded for Baltimore 300 Stand of Arms several days past & expects they have been delivered before this all proper accoutrement attended the arms—he likewise promises that 500 Stand more shall be on their way down this week & the remainder in the next.

We have not received any money from Mr Mullahon Unless we are supplied in a few days to answer the demands on us, our situation will be extremely disagreeable. We are sorry to Trouble you so often on this Subject,

July 4

[Mark Alexander Junr, Baltimore, to His Excellency Thomas S. Lee Esqr]

I had the Honour of Receiving your Excellencys letter of the 25th Ult. informing me of my being appointed one of the Recruiting Officers for Baltimore County. I am highly sensible of the Honour your Excellency intended me by the Appointment, as nothing could have given me greater Pleasure than that of serving my Country in so Honourable an Employment. Your Excellency may be assured that no exertion on my side shall be wanting to Procure Recruits. But I must beg leave to [observe] that unless I am furnished with Money for that purpose every effort of mine will be fruitless. Should your Excellency think Proper to send me a Sum of Money for the Above purpose I make not the least doubt of getting Recruits Shall wait your Answer, which I shall expect shortly as our Militia are to meet this week.

[William Bayly Jr., Geo. Town, to Gov. Lee.] July 5

In the List I handed into your Excellency of those who were Desirous of an Appointment in the Horse to be Raised by this State, I Omitted mentioning the name of Mr Leonard M. Deakins a young Gentleman who served as a Capt. in the Flying Camp, if it shou'd be necessary for a Surgeon to be appointed to the Horse Mr Clement Smith wou'd Act in that Department if appointed.

[Joseph Dashiell, Salisbury to Governor Lee] (fav'd by Mr. Saml Gerock) July 5 Brown Book No. 9

In consequence of a pece of Information I Recd from John Travers, relitive to the Conduct of the Barer Mr Samuel Gerock, that he had gone to Portsmoth with him, and had taken a protection, and had Intered in to a Scheem of Trade With the Enemy, to furnish them with Sundarys &c. Mr Garock Immediately ariving heare in a small Schooner, Loded with flower Iron &c Oblidged me to Credit what Travis has aledg'd, but as no papers are found upon Mr Garock, I have taken his Bond with Good security, to appear Before your Excellency & Co, in five days, to answer the Charges against him; the Vesel he is in Belongs to Mr Robt Pitts at Pitt's Landing in Virginia, the Flower Mr Garock says Belongs to a Mr Gray in Baltimore, the other part of the Cargo to Capt Furneval and Mr Gerock. I am extremly sorry that Mr Gerock has fallen into this Disagreable Setuation, he is a person that has fought Bravely in our Service, in the Begining of the War, and if the Charges should be prov'd which Travers Ashured me Could it must prove fatal to him, If your Excy & the Councill should Detain Mr Garock plese Give Directions by Capt. Leven Handy or the first opportunity how I am to proceed with the Vesel and Cargo, if Mr Gerock is Gilty of the Charge against him I make no Doubt the Vesel & Cargo is forfeted, I have Unrig'd her & put a proper officer on Bord, to preserve the Cargo &c Pray let me hear from you as soon as posable, and in the Interem you may rely I shall leave no stone unturned to, Detect the Disaffected.

NB. Wheather Mr Gerock was now Bound to Portsmoth or not I Cannot Undertake to say, but I have not a single doubt but that he has bin their latly and from what Travers says has Taken a protection and fitted him self to Trade with the Enemy and his Connections, of Robt Pitts & Gray is in my oppinion much against him

I have Inclos'd you a Deposition of James Stuart, One of the hands which I have that Mr Gerock Informed him that the Cargo Belonged to him & Capt. Furnewell

[James Stewart's deposition, Somerset County.] Somerset County, Maryland

James Stewart aged Thirty six years or thereabouts being Sworn on the Holy Evangels of Almighty God deposeth and Saith, that he

Somerset County, Maryland

was employed by Mr Furnewell of Baltimore Town to go as a Skipper on board a Schooner called the Molly belonging to Mr Robert Pitt of Virginia and was bound for Wicomoco River in Somerset County or any other Post in the State aforesaid, that Mr Samuel Gerock (who owns a part of the Cargo on board said Vessel) might think proper to order her too, he being on board said Vessel as Captain and Supercargo, he having cleared said Vessel out in his own name. The Question being put to this Deponent, if he was sure Mr Gerock had a part of the above Cargo replied that Mr Gerock told him that the Cargo on board said Vessel belonged to Mr Furnewell and himself and further this deponent saith not.

Sworn before Gillis Polk

July 5
Red Book No. 27 Letter 114

[Sam. Smith, Balt., to Gov. Lee.]

I this Moment am Inform'd by two Men who escap'd that James Rouse's Sloop is taken, in which the State had forty Two Hhds Tobacco—they also report that Martin Trout is taken with 12 Hhds of State Tobacco. This is a heavy Loss to my Business, they were taken just coming out of Patuxent by three Barges full of Men one of which went down & the other two up to burn Capt. Yellett's Brig. The Galley ready fitted kept down there would protect our Trade, in that River.

Mr Keeport Demands are very great, he wants Iron much, Surely it would be a Saving for the State to make use of its own.

July 6
Red Book No. 27 Letter 8

[John Allinton and James Joiner, Annapolis, to Gov. Lee.]

May it Please your Excellency We the Two Men who have Long Been detained In this Town have taken the oppertunity & Likewise the Liberty of Wrighting a few Lines hoping they will Nott be received any ways amiss By your Excellency, and Likewise to Inform your honour of our Former Circumstance & Likewise the situation we are now Both In. Which is First, for my Part which is John Allinton was Taken from The Buckskin Heroe by the Irish Frigate Commanded by Capt. Dawson & Continued with them about Eight Months att the Expiration of which I made my Escape & was detained By Comeing to this Place with Mr Doyle & our Property Taken from us & Further to Inform your Excellency That we are destitute of Friends at This Place & Have nothing to subsist on or support us. We therefore hope your Tender Goodness will Favour us so far as to Grant us a pass to Philadelphia & a Permit to draw Provision on the Way upon a Proviser we Cannot Gett Ship'd In Baltimore.

July 6

[Joseph Dashiell, Salisbury, to Gov. Lee.]

I rote you yesterday by a Mr Samuel Garock that I have bin Informed by Mr Traverse has bin with the Enemy, at Portsmouth & has taken a protection as no such papers was found upon I have taken

his Bond with good security to appear Before your Ex[l] & Co by the 20th Ins[t] to answer to the Charge made against him by Travis. I have seazed his Vesel & Cargo untill I heare from you, the Cargo Consists of flower War Iron & Potts &c. Sum people here have their doubts that M[r] Garrock will not appear Before you, I should not have trusted him if I had money to have Suplied a guard—pray Let me know as soon as posable, what I am to do With the Vesel & Cargo if he is Detaind, The Vesel Belongs to Rob[t] Pitts in Virginia We have this day apprehended Elijah Sturgis and have him in Goal, shall wate your further orders. What to do with the Prisoners here as we have not money to send them forward. The Draughts heare refuse to march until they Receive their Bounty & the Sheriff has not Rec[d] Ten pounds of the Class money since I went to the Assembly, Sundry men would furnish Substitutes for 6 months but it is not in my power to pass them now unless they Inlist for three years Should be Glad of your advice & Directions I am in hopes something favourable has happened in Virginia, as a number of Our Insurgents have Deserted from them within a few Days, and Declare they will be hang'd rather than stay as Long again with the Enemy—there is four privetars and as many Barges in our sound they have plunderd the Houses of Leven Gale & Levin Dashiell & Burned all the Houses of the Latter yesterday morning. I wish to God the Galley and the Barges Could Come down to Act with Capt Walley who will be out in a few days I think we should be able to Take or at least Drive from this State any force that will Come heare July 6

[Jon[n] Hudson, Balt[o] to His Excellency Tho[s] Sim Lee Esq[r]] July 6

This will be handed to you by Capt[n] Audit of the Privateer Schooner Resource, who waits on you for a Comission, w[ch] you will please furnish him with, Capt. Audit being of unexceptionable character Good Conduct & a Brave man.

[Thomas Doyle, Main Guard, Annapolis, To his Excellency the Governor & Council.] [July] 7

Your Petitioner & prisoner, if your honours pleas, My Affairs are in a desperate situation viz My property squandered about. Your prisoner lying in a dirty Jail in a poor State of health no clothes to keep himself clean. My rations stopp'd cut off from all the necessarys of life. Good God what shall I do only this I depend on the bowels of mercy from Your Excellency and the worthy Gentlemen in Your Councill as it is most agreable to me to trust in Your honours Clemency & Your petitioner shall with due thanksgiving ever pray

[Jon[n] Hudson, Balt[o], to Governor Lee] July 7

This will be handed to you by Capt[n] Besse who waits on you for a Com[n] for the Schooner Good Adventure as a Letter of Marque w[ch] you will please Grant to him.

July 9
Brown Book
No. 1
Letter 42

[G°. Washington, Head Quarters near Dobb's Ferry, to George Plater Esqr, Prest, Senate, William Bruff, Speaker Ho. Delegates, Maryland.]

I am honoured with your favour of the 27th ult. as the troops of Maryland compose part of the Southern army now under the immediate command of Major Genl Greene, I think there wd be an impropriety (as it may interfere with the arrangements of that army) to give General Smallwood directions to remain in Maryland for the purposes you mention, but if his doing this is not incompatable with the orders or views of General Greene, I have no objection to his remaining in that state 'till application can be made to General Greene, who I make no doubt will acquiesce in a measure which seems calculated for the public good, if General Smallwood's service with the Army can be dispenced with.

I have the Honour to be Gentlemen with great respect Your most obedt Servt

July 10
Red Book
No. 27
Letter 118

A Return of Clothing Military & Officers Stores Bought by Sam Smith for accot of the State of Maryland untill the 9 July 1781

Clothing

102¾	Super Cloth		
1051	Brod	Corse D°	Equal to 500 Coats & 500 Jacketts
331¾	Narrow		
47⅞	Broad	Scarlet	
65½	yds Nar.		
4000	yds white linen	will make 1280 Shirts	
4044	yds oznaburghs will make 1600 pr Overalls & 500 Knapsacks		
722	yds Brown duck		will make 1 Marques 8 Horse Mens Tents & 54 Com. Tents.
257½	yds Russia sheeting		
260¼	yds Ironet Duck		
114½	yds Country Linen		
109¾	Sewing thread		
168	pr Stockings		
577	Hats		
488	Stocks		
444	pr Buckles		
105	Blankets		
	Buttons & Moulds for 500 Suits Cloths		
100	Galls spiritts		
464lbs	Coffee		
180	Soap		
1710	Lead		
4	Rheam Cart. Paper		
100	Camp Kettles		
36¾	Pewter for Butts		

Baltimore 10th July 1781
Errors Excepted
Sam Smith, Agent

[Dan'l Jenifer, Portobacco, to Gov. Lee.] July 10 Red Book No. 22 Letter 11

I did myself the honor by the last post of informing your Excellency that the Quota of horses for this county were made up, and that they were very burthensome to my son, I fear that the post (as I recd no answer) hath lost or mislaid my Letter. The Horses since they have been in my possession, are much bettered, and I hope will please.

[P. Thomas, Frederick, to Gov. Lee.] July 10

Mr Hopkins Lewis is very desirous to obtain a Commission in the Maryland Line He has lived here several months and appears to have conducted himself to the Satisfaction of every Body. He is thrown out of employment in consequence of the Removal of the Convention Prisoners, And informs me that the Army under Ld Cornwallis possesses that part of Virginia where his Father, on whom he depends, resides. He is therefore reduced to a very disagreeable situation in consequence of the inclosed Certificate and the circumstances he is under I take the Liberty to recommend him to the notice of your Excellency and the Honble Board.

[Chas Thomson, Secretary's Office, to His Excellency, the Governor.] July 10 Red Book No. 8 Letter 9

I have the honor to inform you that the Honorable Samuel Huntington having informed the United States in Congress Assembled that the State of his health would not permit him to continue longer in the exercise of the duties of President, and requested leave of absence, Congress have this day proceeded to the choice of a President, and have elected the Honorable Thomas McKean.

[Information of Jno Traverse ag^t Saml. Gerrock & others, taken 10. July 1781] July 10

Inform^a of Jno Traverse He saw Saml Gerrock at Portsmouth the 6th Day of June last he was in Company with Jacob Hayward. Gerock informed him his Intention was to establish a Trade between Portsmouth & Balt. does not know that Gerock has a Protection. Gerock went with him in his Vessel from Morumsco to Portsmouth. Gerock told him he had lodged Money in the Hands of Doct^r Heuston to purchase Plank which he intended to transport to Portsmouth and was about buying a large French Schooner. Vessels were to be sent from Baltimore to receive the Plank in the Bay and carry it to Portsmouth—he came from Portsmouth in a Boat belonging to Elijah Sturgis and left it the same Day he did. Gerock & Hayward were constantly together.

Saw Jacob Hayward in Portsmouth 6th June Hayward told him he had carried several Load of Corn to the Enemy in Portsmouth

July 10 and that he was going up for another—Hayward told him he had every necessary Paper to carry on a Trade with the Enemy—he appeared to be very busy and offered his services to every Person that went from us into Portsmouth. Hayward procured a Protection for him—seems to have Influence with the commanding officer—about the middle of May last he applied to Warwick Mr Saml Wilson's Overseer to know if he had any Corn to sell—he said he had 150 Bushels and that Mr Wilson had about 1000 Bushs—he then went to Mr Wilson and asked him if he had any Corn to sell he said he had & would take 2/6 hard money a Bushel for it—he plainly intimated to Mr Wilson his Design was to carry it to the Enemy by saying he intended to carry it below. Mr Wilson replied smilingly he did not inquire where it was going to—he then said Mr Wilson knew he could not take it off in the Day Time, Mr Wilson said he would thresh it out and load his Vessel in the Night—he said he could not pay him til he returned. Mr Wilson answered he wanted hard money very much and wanted it all paid down—he told him he could pay Part but not more than half if that. Mr Wilson told him to come to his House next morning—but he declined carrying the Corn.

July 10
Brown Book
No. 1
Letter 43

[Go. Washington, Head Quarters near Dobb's ferry, to His Excellency Governor Lee]

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your Excellency's favor of the 29th June.

It is with very great Satisfaction I observe the proceedings of the General Assembly of your state which you have been pleased to communicate to me The exertions of that Legislature have heretofore been laudable and I am exceedingly glad to see the same spirit still prevailing. For my own part I have not a doubt but that if the states were to exert themselves with that spirit and vigor which might reasonably be expected at this favorable period they might not only drive from the Continent the remains of the british force now among us but obtain to themselves their Independance with the enjoyment of Peace Liberty and happiness to their numerous Inhabitants an event which you will be assured I most ardently wish.

I have the honor to be with perfect respect & Esteem Yr Excellency's Most obedient Servant

July 11
Red Book
No. 27
Letter 1

[Wm. Allein, Calvert County, to Gov. Lee.]

I am informed a Man by the name of Anderson is taken up at Annapolis supposed to be a Spy, and from the accounts its the same person who pass'd through this County about 12 days agoe and from his behaviour & Conversation to a Thomas Heathman and Alexander Ogg both of this County together with telling a different Story to Col Wilkinson & Doctr Johnson, there's great reason to believe him

an Emmissary from the Brittish, and for fear nothing shou'd appear as Evedence against him & he discharged I make free to relate his different stories. July 11 Red Book No. 27 Letter 1

He told Col Wilkinson & many others that He had arrived in a Vessell into St. Marys with 2800 Stand of Arms & Bale Goods. which was delivered to Col Rich[d] Barnes from whom he had a pass, & a Letter to you—the pass appeared as really from Col Barns & he was let to pass—but it now appears that the same day he told Thomas Heathman that he did belong to the Barges and was the person who took his Vessell with Tobacco about last November—and further said he was at Lower Marlbro at the time the Barge was there—and he shewed Heathman a Commission from the British made out in the name of ——— Robinson—and that he had Deserted from the Barge on acco[t] of killing a man in a Duel. Heathman said this was told him in the presence of Alex[r] Ogg a Tavern keeper at Hunting Town where they were—from many Circumstances theres reason to believe Heathman knew the man & his Business for he has long been suspected by some to be a Tory and what add strength to it is that when he was taken last Fall in his Vessell with Tobacco by this same Anderson—they not only return'd him his Vessell but gave him & the Crew & Danmund Cramphin fifty Bushells of Allum Salt & took nothing but the Tobacco from him, while every other Vessell which was taken at same time was detained. M[r] Ogg owned a part of the Vessell & Tobacco & had some of the Salt from this treatment added to his opining his sentiments to Heathman & Ogg so freely & telling a different Tale to others makes me think the man thought he was safe in Conversing with them. I think it the duty of every friend to America to make every circumstance appear in order to detect & find out our Enemy who but too often escapes without notice. If convenient I wou'd be glad to know when he has his Triall as I may attend to ask him some questions relating to the Robbery at Lower Marlbro as I have reasons to believe some persons gave them aid.

[Chas. Blake, Corsica, to His Ex: Thos. S. Lee Esq[r]] July 11
(p[r] Capt[n] M. Clayland)

By Capt[n] M Clayland I send 112 barrels of flour made in this County Col° Hollingsworth mentions in his orders to his Capt[n] that he expects Waggons I have seen nothing of them. I have no invoice of the flour and send you the Millers letter enclos'd; his under Miller for fear of the draft has gone off in a hurry I have Wheat enough to make up of 160 bar: more but when it can be done I cant say; as M[r] Kennard inform'd me yesterday that all his pleople were going into the other state; I hope when the draft is over they will return; I will have it ready as soon as possible.

[P. S] the flour was on board before I knew that I could not [get] an invoice.

July 11 [T. Donnellan, Baltimore, to Gov. Lee.]

Am Return'd from Philadelphia and ready to Execute your Excellencys Commands respecting the Recruits to be raised here.

Some have been offered me within this day or two, but being ignorant of what they shou'd be furnished with, the want of Money to purchase any thing for them and not knowing by what measure Barracks is to be had, have declined the Matter untill I Receive your Excellencys orders about it—wch shall be carefully attended to

July 11
Red Book
No. 27
Letter 116

[Sam Smith, Balt., to Gov. Lee]

Yesterday Evening late I rec^d^ your Excell^ys^ orders of the 9th and in Consequence I this Morning proceeded to the Execution. Mr Keeport has Two Cover'd waggons nearly ready, Coll Adams is already provided with one which I presume is the third wanting If it is not, another will be ready Shortly, I Have Secur'd four open waggons, about Half worn, but perfectly fit for the road & am in Hopes to get the other there this week. The Horses may be sent up on Monday. The Necessity of providing the waggons oblig'd me to exceed your orders. No person will sell for New Money untill they first know what Credit it will have, I have therefore Engag'd that the owners shall be satisfied.

All the Tobacco now in my possession is order'd up to Philad^a^ or Sold. I Have yet rec^d^ none from Bladensburg, but this Day waggons have gone for it, 109 H^hds^ arriv'd at Elk sometime past for acco^t^ the State, 78 are now on their way & the remainder Sold at such prices as will nearly equal the N^t^ pro: of that gone Philad^a^; except that to Mr Gillmore, which was with your Hon. Boards approbation & was a Sale of Expediency, In no Instance have I sold for Less than double what the planter sells at. Circumstances made those sales unavoidable, they were advantageous & I am certain when my acc^ts^ are laid before you, they will meet with approbation, Mr Gillmore abated 6^d^ ꝑ yard in the Linens, It not proving of proper Quality. I Have by making proper payment establish'd a Credit & I now Can buy Cheaper than any Individual. I Bo^t^ 1200 yds Linen a few Days past of excell^t^ quality, much Superior to Mr Gillmores (which was after the abatement Cost 4/9) at 4/ ꝑ yard—and oznaburgs my property seiz'd from Mr Walker in Marlborough. I am allow'd 3/ ꝑ yard for, these Seizures distress & Sour the people, they ruin the finances & do not expedit the Service, It is Impossible for me to lay a State of my Expenditures before your Excell^y^ Imm^y^ Tradesmen's Bills, freights, Mr Keeports acco^ts^ & numberless Small Charges will prevent its being accurate. Of this be assur'd that the Tedious returns from Philad^a^ has oblig'd me to be in advance six Hundred pounds specie, & be also assur'd that the wants are such that at no Time will it be in my power to be otherwise than in advance. Allmost all the

flour Rec[d] is sold at 14/ to 15/. The persons who Bo[t] it cannot get that for it in Philad[a]; When I receive that & the 100 H[hds] from M[r] Muir, I will order it to Philad[a] July 11 Red Book No. 27 Letter 116

I am Inform'd that These Troops are Imm[y] to be Accoutred, if so, orders should be Issued. I Have set Ellicott to work he has made Twenty swords for Nicholsons Troops & would Continue. It takes Considerable Time to procure saddles & accoutrements, and it is a great advantage to provide in Time. These New recruits will want Clothes. My Battalion has by subscription nearly rais'd their Men say 40—they are very good & might be put on the Horses Imm[y]. No person here seems dispos'd to take Care of them

Inclos'd is an Inaccurate return of Clothing purchased I Have sent to Philad[a] for more tent Linen, for Drums, fifes &c &c & am now in Treaty for 50 Excell[t] Blankets, which I shall get. If the Horses are sent up we shall send with the waggons the whole of the Cloths. The reason of the Detention of Coats is owing to a want of Red Cloth, we have substituted Everlasting It was not procurable in Philad[a] However they are in good Time.

A List of Clothing deliver'd by Samuel Smith &c. &c.

Time of Delivery	To whom deliver'd	Coats	Jackets	Overalls	Shirts	Pairs wollen Hose	Hats	Blankets	Super Cloth, yds.	Pairs Breeches	Stocks	Thread Hose	Camp Kettles	Horse Tents	Common Tents
June 7	John Muir						200		102¾						
15th	George Keeport		64	128	128		61	64		64					
22	John Muir	15	124	135	306	168	80	51		380	80	6	68		
23	Ditto		4	39	47	20	50								
27	Ditto	45	62	229	171	24		76			320			8	50
		60	254	531	652	219	391	191	102¾	444	400	6	68	9	50
	Will be ready on Tuesday	440	46	469	348		109								
		500	300	1000	1000		500								

N. B.—This with the 200 suits supplied from Philad. Equips 700 men fit for Marching with Clothing

[July 11th 1781]

[Mark Alexander, Jn'r, Baltimore, to His Excellency, Thos. S. Lee.] July 12

Agreeable to my Appointment I have Inlisted to the number of Fourteen Recruits, and I expect to get on or Before the 16th a number more. By your Excellency's Letter to me, it appears that Thomas Donnallen was Appointed to Receive & provide for them, but he informs me it is not in his power to do either the one or other without your Excellency's particular Instructions. The Recruits are coming in fast & I have no way to provide for them. Therefore I would beg your Excellency's Particular Instructions, as soon as possi-

July 12 ble, who are to Issue Rations provide Barracks & other necessaries & when I may expect the Bounty for them, & Likewise whether I am to have the Command of them or whether they are to be Delivered to Regular Officers.

July 12 [Jas. Calhoun, Baltimore, to the Governor and Council.]

On the 18th Ult. I took the liberty to request the directions of your Honble Board in several matters relating to the Commissary Department, but have not been favoured with any instructions on that subject

I am very desirous to get this business into a proper channel so as the State may have Credit for the Specific Supplies furnished the Continent which will not be the case for any but what is delivered to a Continental officer, therefore must once more take the liberty of pointing out what I apprehend is the proper channel for supplies to pass through—there are certain Magazines established in this State by the Commander in Chief viz. Head of Elk Baltimore & George Town at each of which place is a Continental Store keeper whose business it is to receive Specific Supplies from the State Commiss^ry^ and forward them to wherecver they may be wanted either in or out of the State but those Continental Storekeepers having once received Provisions into their hands can only deliver them to a Continental officer or Issuing commissary & hence the impropriety of having any other than Continental Issuing Commissaries at the different Posts for besides the great trouble it must necessarily be to your Board it is attended with a very considerable expence to this State in sending Provisions from the Magazines to the different Posts which ought to be the business of the Continental Quarter Master or Store keeper at the expence & risque of the United States.

I am afraid the Quantity of Merchantable Flour that I shall be able to deliver Col^l^ Smith will fall short of your order as a good deal of the wheat was manufactured into common flour previous to the resolve of the Genl Assembly, besides Mr Wm Smith insists on being furnished with his 518 Barrels as his order was prior to Col^o^ Smith. Pray direct me what to do in this matter and also what is to be done with the common flour in the different Counties which am very apprehensive will not keep good through the Summer Season.

Yours of the 10th came to hand last night & agreeable to order I now send ꝑ bearer fifty Barrels of flour as ꝑ Invoice enclosed to Mr Chrisal for which was oblidged to pay the freight before the Skipper would take it in—such is the unhappy situation of our Public Credit

[Wm Hemsley, Queen Anns County, to Gov. Lee.] July 12

Enclosed you have the affadavits of four of the Draughts, the others shall be sent as soon as the people can get notice it being harvest every man has been so engaged they cou'd not leave home.

There are not more than four Draughts but what will claim the exemption under the Law, and those being single men I believe have run away into the Delaware State.

I shall be much obliged for the Direction of the Council about receiving the 4/ tax I am at a loss to know at what Exchange to receive the paper money, for in common transactions between man & man, it does not pass at all. When I left Ann^{s} the Exchange was Six for one and the Commissioners of the Tax having Settled it at three, the people think it hard that I wont take it at that. A report prevails here that you intend suspending the Draught ordered by the last law. I have not heard of any Officer being sent to this County to recruit. Are the persons excused from Marching who were draughted in April, to be classed & draughted again? I cannot think the mode of draughting the men will ever procure them.

[Sam. Hodgdon, C. G. M. S., Philadelphia, to Gov. Lee.] July 13

By perticular request of Mr Carroll I inclose an Invoice of Muskets, Bayonets, and Cartouch Boxes, forwarded this day address'd to Mr Keepot, in Baltimore, for the use of the State of Maryland, five hundred stand more are under Order, which will, be forwarded, as soon as circumstances will possibly permit—the demand for Arms from all quarters, being very pressing, will unavoidably prevent their coming on, as soon as I could wish—but you may rest assured, that not a Moments unnecessary delay shall be made—when ready I shall do myself the honor, of giving you notice, that you may know when to expect them.

July 13 Invoice of Military Stores put on Board Cap[t] Montgomery's Vessel by Major Jon[a] Gostels are bills to be forwarded for the Maryland State Phil[a] July 13. 1781

1 Chest	N°	1	Cont[l]	27	Muskets & Bayonetts	
d°	N°	2	d°	28	d°	d°
d°	N°	3	d°	25	d°	d°
d°	N°	4	d°	28	d°	d°
d°	N°	5	d°	26	d°	d°
d°	N°	6	d°	34	d°	d°
d°	N°	7	d°	27	d°	d°
d°	N°	8	d°	33	d°	d°
d°	N°	9	d°	27	d°	d°
d°	N°	10	d°	34	d°	d°
d°	N°	11	d°	27	d°	d°
d°	N°	12	d°	25	d°	d°
d°	N°	13	d°	29	d°	d°
d°	N°	14	d°	32	d°	d°
d°	N°	15	d°	28	d°	d°
d°	N°	16	d°	24	d°	d°
d°	N°	17	d°	25	d°	d°
d°	N°	18	d°	21	d°	d° &
					3 Cartouch	Boxes
1 Hhd	N°	19	d°	.....	160	d°
d°	N°	20	d°	.....	175	d°
d°	N°	21	d°	.....	110	d°
d°	N°	22	.....		52	d°

500 Musk[ts] & Bay[ts] . . 500 Cartouch Boxes

Samuel Hodgdon
C. G. M. S.

His Excellency Thomas Sim Lee Esquire

Philad[a] July 13. 1781 Rec[d] of Samuel Hodgdon Esq[r] C. G. M. S. the number of Arms & Cartouch Boxes contain'd in the within Invoice which I promise to deliver to the Quarter Master at Christiana Bridge to be forwarded by him to Baltimore for the use of the State of Maryland Duplicate

Hugh Montgomery

July 13
Red Book
No. 23
Letter 121

[Solomon Simmonds, Kent County, to Gov. Lee.]

Some time in May I made bold to Petition your Excellency for permission to go to Long Island in order to recover some Estate there belonging to my Grand Children as the Petition went down by M[r] Lawson I flattered myself he woud have been able to give me an Answer to it but as he has returned and does not know any thing respecting the matter I now make free to trouble your Excellency

again on this subject, and shall rest assured if their shou'd be no particular Political reasons to the contrary I shall be indulged with the Permission prayed for. July 13 Red Book No. 23 Letter 121

Shou'd such indulgence be given to me the bearer will be kind enough to take charge of it for me

[Geo. P. Keeports, Baltimore, to Gov. Lee.] July 13 Red Book No. 30 Letter 76

May It please your Excell^y I Received your Letter The Day before yesterday Evening Requesting me to give you Imediate Information how far the Gun Carriages are Finished and what Part is Begun. The wood work and Elevating screws for seven (out of The Twelve I was ordered to have made) only are Finished and The Iron work of one Carriage begun.

Exclusive of Those Carriages I have had Two New Carriages made (in the Room of Two old ones that were Rotten) one of which is Finished and the other will be in a Few Days If not stoped for want of Iron, so that by the Latter End of Next week The Five old Field Peices will be Compleatly Fitted up and Finished all to Painting. Two of The Ammunition Wagons will be Finished by Tomorrow Evening all to Painting and Two others are begun. Six sett of Harness for Four Horse Teems are Likewise Finished all to Traces.

It Takes about 450^lbs w^t of Iron To Compleat a Carriage and Four Wheels and about The same Quantity for a Wagon so that the Quantity of Iron Wanting must be Calculated by the work That is to be Finished. The blacksmiths Likewise would Very willingly Take Iron at The Current Price in Part Pay for their work.

Mr Saml Hughs has Notified to me that he Intends to Take away the 20 Peices Cannon I Received from his Furnace and Requested me to Inform your Excell^cy Thereof, I wish to be Informed wether I may Permit him to Take Them without an order

[R. Bond St. Marys County to ———] July 14

I Received Yours of the 12th Inst. and have the pleasure to advise you the number of Horses required from this County are ready to be delivered to Your order.

[Dan'l of St. T. Jenifer, Portobacco, to ———] July 15 Red Book No. 22 Letter 10

I had the honor of a Letter from the Governor and Council dated the 12th Ins^t relative to the Horses received by me for the use of the State. I by the two last posts informed your Excellency that the Quota for this County was compleat which was done without Loss of time. I shall observe your directions with regard to the Surplus horses but am afraid as there is no money in this County they will sell to considerable Loss in case the owners shou'd refuse to receive

July 15 Red Book No. 22 Letter 10

them. I cou'd wish that your Excellency and the Council wou'd give orders for those that are for the Troops to be immediately taken away as they are in some danger from the Enemy in case any Barges should come up the River. They are exceedingly burdensome to my son who is obliged to keep constant watch on them. I am Sir exceedingly indisposed.

The horses have been well fed and are much mended since they were rec'd indeed they are very fat.

July 15 Red Book No. 27 Letter 119

[Henry Shryock, Hagers Town, to Gov. Lee.]

May it Please your Excellency I Have this Moment Rec^{d} your Exclencys Letter Directing Me What Number of horses I am to Furnish from this County I Have Colected twenty one and should had Colected the Whole Number Directed By the Genl Assembly Had Not Mr Barnes tould Me that your Excelency and the Honorable Council Would suspend the Colection of som Part of the Number I am Not able to Furnish the Number of Light horse as there is hardly any Horses in this County fit for that Purpose But Draught horses I have a Number as Good as in the State of Maryland and Not one horse But What has Ben Proven to Be Good I have also a good Set of Gears to Each Horse and have the Promes of three Waggons I thought to had Fixed the Whole Number of Horses in to teams if I Could By any Means Procure Waggons enough.

July 15 Red Book No. 27 Letter 120

[George Stricker, Frederick Town, to the Council.]
(By Mr. Holmes)

I wrote to you in a Letter Bearing Date the 1st Instant Concerning the Collection of Horses and Received yours of the 12th Instant by William Holmes, wherein I find and have Reasons to Believe that mine of the first Instant did not come to your Hands of which the Inclosed is a Coppy.

Amongst the Number of Horses Collected you will find in the Inclosed the Majority are Draft Horses and all very able Ones, and as the Number allready Collected will be the sufficient Number assigned for this County agreeable to your last letter—the whole of them have Been Collected from those people Pointed out by the Act of Assembly. I therefore Leave it to the Honourable Board to Receive those allready Collected or to Impower me to Exchange Draft for Troops, which I am Doubtfull will be Troublesom

Your further Directions therein will oblidge Your Hum^{l} Servt

July 16

[Col^{o} Wm. Beatty, Frederick County to His Excellency Thos Sinm Lee Esquire]

There is a vacancy for the want of an Ensign in Captain Whites Company of Militia belonging to the Frederick Town Battalion. The Company seem to have fixed on Andrew Lowe as the man of

their Choice—as he is a Young man of Spirit and as well fitted in my opinion to bear the Commission as any belonging to the Company, I could wish if your Excellency approves of him, that the Company may be indulged especially as he seems ambitious of receiving it. July 16

[Peter Chaille, Worcester County, to His Excellency Thos. S. Lee Esqr.] July 16

I Rec^d your Letter dated in Council July 12. 1781 I have to inform you I have Colected no horses as I have bin Out in the State Barge Protector in order to prevent the Enemy^s Barges from Plundering the People on the Wayters of Ouer Bay and Rivers Which they wair doing in the most barberus and Cruil manner as she was not man^d I thought it my duty to turn out as a Volunteer, which I flatter my self was partly the Cause of her being maned in that way, in two days, I shall do Every thing in my Power to Colect the horses in a few days, which shall inform you of by the first opertunity, I have got about three hundred yards of Coarse Cloath fit for Soldiers Cloathing. I will send you the Sample the first Opertunity.

[John Murdock, Montgomery County, To His Ex^cy The Governor and the Honble Council.] (Per George Adams) July 16

I fully intended to have sent forward tomorrow by a Corporal's Guard, all the Recruits and Draughts that are collected at George Town, in this County, but some of them are unable to march and others complain that they have not yet received all their money from the Classes, nor any of their Cloathing, which has prevented my sending them at present, but desire you will, if convenient, have an Officer sent as soon as may be, to take Charge of them, who has been long expected.

If Mr Sears, the Gentleman who conducted the continental Artillery and military Stores to George Town in April last, could be ordered on this Duty, it might enable me to determine on the Propriety of William Veale Stewart's Enlistment, who made his Complaint to you concerning it,—otherwise I shall forward him with the officer you may send, enclosing such Affidavits as may be produced to me concerning him, for your Determination of that Affair.

I have already advanced money out of what has been received from the Classes which were draughted in this County, for Payment to Persons who have nursed sick Recruits &c, since they have been in George Town, one of which is dead and buried, and Disbursements made therefor; I wish to know whether this is proper or not.

John Yost, who has already repaired several public Arms, and is now employed about repairing those you last sent to this County, has made frequent Applications to me for money, and he now tells me that he cannot go on with the Work, nor longer Maintain his Family

July 16 without regular Payments, so that he must stop unless he can be paid for it, Your Directions herein will much oblige me, for I am apprehensive that my discharging those Accounts in the Manner I have done, and may hereafter be obliged to do, is not the regular Mode; although I shall venture to continue to do so on many Emergencies, unless you give me positive Orders to the contrary.

July 16
Red Book
No. 27
Letter 121

[Sam Smith, Balt., to Gov. Lee.]

I was Honor'd with a Letter of the 26th Ult. from Mr Brice, ordering returns of Clothing procur'd by me under the Law I answer'd the Letter next Day. But fear from a Letter I had yesterday from Colo Stone I have been in an Error. I Have Constantly thought my executing your Excellys first order was executing the Law. If I have Err'd, I suppose I am now too late to be set right. The Troops under the Description of the Law being already Cloth'd.

It would be difficult to procure the Clothing under the Law, The most people having heretofore Considerably assisted the State & there is at present few people possess'd of Suitable Goods here

I Have provided all the waggons except Two & have Expectations to get them. Should I not, five open waggons will be Sufficient to Carry all the Tents now ready, & the other two may follow when the remaining Tents are prepar'd. I think I can pass some of the New Money as Gold & Silver, therefore shall be obligd if I am furnish'd with about two Hundred & fifty pounds The Delay of Tobacco, Its slow sale in Philada & the fall of flour has put me into the most difficult situation. Pray send me the New Money soon as possible, I Have now four very severe Duns in the Store.

July 17 [John Smith Brookes, U Marlbro, to The Honble The Governor & Councill.]

Your favour of the 11th did not get to my hands till the 13th I sett out immediately upon the business you directed, and from a number of circumstances it was not in my power to get the Cattle collected sooner than this day. Mr Scott the Bearer of this has 12 head which he is directed to deliver to Mr John Crisall agreeable to your orders. The Cattle are by no means so good as I could wish them, neither are they equal to what they were when I first collected them—the weather is so exceeding warm, that they suffer very much in driving. The Gentlemen from whom I collect there Cattle entertain an idea that they are to be paid for them in present new money—or they would realy refuse the delivery. I shall be very much obliged to you to write me your sentiments upon the matter. I shall sett out immediately upon the Collection of the remainder and would wish to be informed as to that matter. At all events I pray you to furnish me with a sum sufficient to defray expences. I am rendered very contemtable in being obliged to transact the business in this manner. It is with diffi-

culty I can get a man to assist me in collecting of Cattle from one house to another, and have been under the necessaty of turning driver myself—a very disagreeable alternative this warm weather. July 17

[Joseph Dashiell, Worcester County, to Gov. Lee.] July 17

I Rec^d by Express yesterday Sundry laws &c but was surpris'd that I had not a scrape of a pen from your Excellency—Relitive to the prisoner I rote we had in Goal. When we sent Traves away, Since which we have apprehended Elijah Sturgis & one Rugby Slocom, the latter is a vilian that has bin with the enemy Burning & plundering, was Taken by Capt Shadwick, on W Island, and sent to us as he is One of this County.

I most sincerely wish that your Excellency & C° would Order a Court to try those persons, as they are kept in Goal at a very Grate expence, being oblidge to keep a Constant guard, the Goal not being Trustworthy—and I Cannot send them forward to Annapolis for want of money.

I have detained the Vesel of one Samuel Garock, from Baltimore, that Traves Informd me had bin down to portsmouth with him, and had Taken a Protection, not having money to send a guard I Tuck a bond with good Securety, that he would appeare before you by the 10th this Ins^t by whom I rote you and requested if he was Detained to know what I was to do with his Vesel & Carco, which Consists of Flower & Iron &c Your not wrighting or mentioning his name gives his Securety Grate Reason to fear that he has not made his appearance before you agreable to promise, if he has not Travis can give you all the Information, abought him that is necessary, should be glad to heare from you and have Directions what to do with his Vesel & Cargo, I think it my Duty to mention a practice that is Carrying on here, that must be attended with every evile Consequence, Almost every person that falls into the hands of those Miraudors Give a parole, Under which they wish to hold themselves bound, wheather taken in Armes or not, & as often as they please go to Portsmouth under pretence of having a summons to appeare there, without any licence from Any officer whatever, I am inform'd that Col° Peter Waters is now gone to Portsmouth upon a summons from One Atkinson a refugee, to answer to his parole, taken by Capt Colliar, last fall if this is to be suffered I am convinced it will be Imposable to do any thing efectual with our Barges, as every peace of Intelligence, that they want they can have we should be extremly Glad of your Directions in this Particular. I submit it to your Excellency wheather the Corn purchased last Winter was a year had not better be Dispos'd of as a good deal of it must be much Damag'd & all of it must be Lost if it is not Dispos'd of before the Hot weather is Over. I rote you by Capt Levin Handy relative to Capt. Waylys Commisions, should be glad that they were sent down, agreable to his request—which I Communicated in my letter by Capt. Handy.

July 17 [Jas. Murray to Hon̄ble Col° Brice]

Jub Fowler has a rupture in his Groin which renders him incapable of Military Duty—I shou'd be glad you woud consider wether there coud not be an Impropriety in classing me with the Militia as I now am & have been for eighteen months past in the service of the States, as Physitian to the Hospital

July 17 [Wm. Hemsley, Queens Town, to Gov. Lee.]

I am now proceeding to class the Militia, but think proper to inform you that some of the persons appointed to recruit in this County did not receive their Warr^ts^ until Sunday & I believe the others have not got them yet. From this Circumstance I wou'd submit it to the Council whether the Draught had not better be suspended for a little time to give the officers an opportunity of trying to enlist the men for I much fear they will never be procured by draughting. Mr Nicholls who takes this over will return to-morrow & deliver me Your Answer.

The people have been engaged in harvest ever since the Law came out therefore cou'd not call the Battalions together.

July 17
Brown Book
No. 7
Letter 68

[Lafayette, Richmond, to His Excellency Govr Lee.]

Gen: Greene having written to me in the most pressing manner, respecting completing Col. Lee's corp of cavalry; and understanding that your State is raising a number of horse for the dragoon service, I have to request of your Excellency, should no appropriation have been agreed to, that Captn Archer may be furnished with fifty for this purpose.

July 17 [Wm Rose, Sergt. Major 1st Maryland Regimt, Annapolis, to the Governor and Council.]

I have made bold to lay down these few lines to the Hon^l^ Governor & Council & hopes they will be pleas'd to Look them over which Necessity drives me to make Known my distressed Condition and it being the first Application that ever I made of the kind I hope the favour will be granted to me for as there is no distinction made between the Soldiers and non commissioned officers, or Warrant officers cloathing which I myself or all other young fellows that is in such post woud wish to make a distinction between their dress and the soldiers, that are in any such post, for without a distinction we can bear no conmand and as I have always made it a point to purchase the greater part of my cloathing, and if in Town's to Quarter myself in good Houses Rather than lie in the Barrucks among the Soldiery, not as I think myself above any Worthy Soldier, but only to make them obey & keep up all good Rules and Discipline of Military duty—and as I have never drawn only one pair of overalls since

I came from the southward, and they being nothing but coarse open oznabrigs I looked upon them to be not fitt (for any Warrant officer that had the Least look of Gentility, or wou'd wish to keep any Gentlemans Comp^{y}) to Wear and the same I let a Soldier have that was in need and great Want of for I look'd upon them not fitt even for any man than him that were in need, and more fit for one in his rank than mine so I am in great hopes y^{r} Hon^{rs} will be pleased to Grant me the favour of an order for as much Dowlass as will make me one or two pair of Overalls for I came from Home unprovided & indeed unexpected for my place of Residence being in Virginia I used to be obliged to come to Port Tobacco in Charles County to Renew my Furlough every Month, and when I came over the last Time, I found orders to meet immediately at this City, which orders I was obliged to Comply with without delay, & coming so unexpect'd Compels me to Apply for this small favour, hoping you'll take it into consideration, and accomplish the Requests. July 17

[And. Buchanan, Balt. Co^{ty}, to His Excellency Thos Sim Lee Esqr] July 18

Their are recruits now furnishing and its absolutely necessary some Person be immediately Appointed to take the care of them and Provide Provision &c therefore hope you will not forget this.

[And Buchanan, Balt. Cou^{ty} to His Excell^{y} Thos Sim Lee Esqr] July 18

The draft of about 40 Classes under the Act to procure troops being suspended sometime agoe and not yet furnish'd their recruit I shou'd be glad to be immediately informed what is to be done with them. Quer. whither the 4/ for every hundred Pounds Property can be Collected from the Classes unless the draft is made. I have heard of no Act of Assem^{y} of ye last Sepr respecting it

[Willm Fitzhugh, Calvert County, to Gov. Lee.] July 18 Red Book No. 26 Letter 116

I had the Honor to receive your favor of the 14th Ins^{t} & have now the Pleasure to Inclose you the Depositions of Heathman, Ogg & Stone & the recognizance of the two former taken on Monday last at the Court House. I apply'd to Col$^{o's}$ Wilkinson & Smith who order'd the Attendance of the Evidences & Attended the takeing their Depositions. I appointed to be with them. But my son William's Dragoon Horse Escap^{d} from my Stable in the Night before & every Horse & Saddle I had, was in Pursuit of Him, & did not return untill late in the afternoon—which prevented me.

The Depositions were written by Doct^{r} Johnson They are not so full & Expressive as I cou'd wish but as the witnesses are Bound to Appear, they may be more fully Examined & others Call'd If necessary. Col^{o} Smith Mr William Allien & Dansmund Cramphin, the latter Goes to Baltimore this week or Has promised to Call at Annapolis. It appears Clearly that Anderson is both a Pirate & a spie.

July 18 Red Book No. 26 Letter 116 He was acting in the Enemys Barges when they murder'd Burn'd & Plunder'd Particularly at Lower Marlbro the 8th Day of Apl last, He was also a Principal man, at the taking of several Vessels Loaded with Tob° in the mouth of Patuxt in December last besides what is mention'd in Your Excellency's Letter to me on that Subject. He Has also traveled through the Country under two Names, & Different pretences & told various falsehoods & shew'd a Commission from the Enemy &c &c.

Mr John Mackall a Majestrate of St Marys I think Deserves Censure. His administring the Oath of Allegiance, & Granting a Certificate to Anderson, Gave Colour for His application to Col° Barnes, whom I am willing to suppose, was Influenc'd only, by that Plausable Appearance of His being a Good Subject, to Grant Him a Pass & Give Him the Letter which He carried to your Excellency. These several Circumstances together, Occasion'd His Passing thro this County without Interruption—& had He not spoke freely to Heathman & Ogg, in Confidence of security, having restor'd to them their Vessell, wth a Complement of Salt, & they afterwards Devulg'd it, so that it came to Capt. Yellot, who was going Immediately to Annapolis, He Anderson, might probably have Pass'd unmolested to the Enemys Lines at New York. Magistrates & Officers Ought to be Extreamly Caution to whom they administer Oaths, or Grant Passes; otherwise, whatever Laws may be Enacted, it will be very Difficult, Nay almost Impossible, to Detect Traitors & Spies when Passing thro: the Country, as I believe they frequently have Done without the least Notice.

I am much obliged to your Excellency for the Current Inteligence, & heartily wish for a Confirmation of the Defeat of the Brittish Fleet in the West Indies. I am in Pain for General Greens Army tho I am willing to flatter myself that the report of His retreat from Fort Ninety six is of Torie Fabrication. I cou'd likewise wish that the report respecting the Defeat of General Waine with a Detachment of the Marquesses Army may be false, tho I have my fears that Part is true.

Mrs Fitzhugh & my son William join wth me in respectful Complts to you your Lady & Family

July 16 Red Book No. 26 Letter 117 Calvert County, The Deposition of Thomas Heathman aged about thirty six years being duly sworn on the holy Evangels of Almighty God deposeth & saidth That on Friday 29th June last he fell in Company with a Man at Hunting Town who called himself Anderson dressed in a country Cotten kersey coat light sandy hair grey eyes and being asked by Col Joseph Wilkinson if he ever saw this person before & where. The deponents answers he believes him to be same person that captured him in Patuxent River a few days before Christmas last as one of Ridley's Crew in a Barge, That he told

this deponent that he was one of the persons in the Barge with Robinson at Lower Marlbro, That if this deponant had gone with them to N. York he would have been considered as Owner & had the Vessell & half the Cargoe given to him, That he shewed him a Commission to one Robinson for the last year giving Robinson a power to grant Commissions to others as Prize masters That he told this deponent that Corn was eight shillings sterling a bushell at Portsmouth, That he said he had a Brother arrived in Phila. who commanded a Ship or vessell called the Holker & that he want'd to go there to see what his brother would do for him as he had now deserted from the English the cause of which was his killing a Man in a duel, That he told this deponent he was chased in a Vessell from Bilboa into St. Mary's River & He brought in 2800 stand of Arms Salt & a great quantity of Irish linen that they were landed & under Guard & that he said he had a pass from Col Rich[d] Barnes & that this deponent saw him go to Col Pat Sim Smith who said he believed it to be Col Barnes writeing

July 16 Red Book No. 26 Letter 117

Sworn before E. Johnson

Calvert County ss. The Deposition of Alexander Ogg aged about thirty six years being duly sworn on the holy Evangels of Almighty God deposeth & saith That on Friday the 29th June last a Man who called himself Anderson carrying his hand a white wintry made kersey Coat striped trowsers a handsome bristol Stone freemason Broach in the breast of shirt a black silk barcelona handkerchief about his neck and asked this deponent if he kept Tavern who answered in the Affirmative & the Man called for Grog he told this deponant he had brought in from Bilboa a fine parcell of Arms Viz. 2800 Stand and the vessell was chased by two English Frigates from point look out up the River Potowmack & that he had run into Britons Bay where he had deliv[d] them safe to Col. Richard Barnes whose pass he said he had

July 16 Red Book No. 26 Letter 120

This deponent then went about his business and after sometime on his return into the house he saw M[r] Thomas Heathman & the above Anderson siting near together Heathman reading a printed paper which he is satisfied was an English Commission & that Anderson had a letter directed to his Ex[y] Tho[s] Sim Lee. M[r] Heathman adressed this deponent this is the Man that took our Tobacco in Patux[t] a few days before Christmas, this deponent demanded of Heathman if he did not know this Man who answered yes he now recollected him but did not know him at first Anderson then said to Heathman it was the best Tob[o] ever carried to N. York and had you staid with the vessell & gone to N. York you would have shared sixty pounds hard money for that was each man share, and also said that you are fools for carrying Tobacco up the Bay for if you was to carry it to the Tangiers from thence it would be conducted to

July 16 Red Book No. 26 Letter 120

Portsmouth where a Guardship lay to protect them & they would get 18 or 20£ hard money ꝑ hogshead and that he heard the said Anderson say he Anderson was in the Barge at the time when the plundering party with one Robinson was at Lower Marlbrough & that on this deponents making some Grogg he heard him telling Mr Heathman sonething about the Engagement in the Bay between the Porpus & Hibernia, but cannot tell the particulars

Sworn before this 10th day July 1781 E Johnson

July 16 Red Book No. 26 Letter 121

[Deposition of James Stone before E. Johnson, Calvert County]

The Deposition of James Stone aged about thirty three years being duly sworn on the Holy Evangels of Almighty God deposeth & saith that on Friday the 29th June last he was returning down the Road he met a certain Thomas Heathman and after some Conversation this deponent asked him what was become of the Man they had seen at Hunting Town (that day) who had a pass from Richard Barnes Esqr Heathman answered that he left him at Mr Oggs & that they had been drinking Toddy together and asked this deponent why he left Town so soon that had this deponent staid he might have had a sufficiency of Toddy as he had treated him (Heathman) this dept made answer he did not want any of his Toddy why says Heathman he was the Man that took our Tobacco at the mouth of Patuxent River & further saith that Heathman & this deponent lodged at Mr James Sewalls that night & that Heathman said the Man told him if he Heathman had claimed the protection of the English & have gone with them he would have been satisfied for the Tobacco they had taken from him (or words to that Effect)

July 18

[Jno Gwinn, Port Tobacco to His Excellency Thom Sim Lee Esqr Governor and the Honourable Council.]

May it please Your Excellency & Honours. In Consequence of the within order, I take the liberty of inclosing it, and hope your Excellency and Honors will Comply with the Contents.

Charles County ss

At a Court for the State of Maryland held at Charles Town in and for the County aforesaid on the Monday before the second Tuesday in and 12th day of March Anno Domini 1781

Before the Worshipfull

Walter Hanson, Daniel Jenifer, John Dent, Robert Young, Warren Dent, Richard Barnes, William Harrison, John Parnham, Walter H. Jenifer, Joshua Sanders, Walter Winter of Jno, Samuel Hanson Jr, Hoskins Hanson, John Morton, Bennett Dyson & John Diggs.

Gentlemen Justices thereunto legally Authorised and Assigned, Jno Gwinn Clk; Benjamin Cawood Gent. Sheriff.

Among other proceedings was the following order (to wit) July 18

Samuel Love Ex^{r} of Saml Love Vs Thomas Reeder J^{r} } Whereas on motion of the Defendant the Court are of opinion that the original Will of Samuel Love late of Charles County (Deceased) ought to be produced on the trial between the parties aforesaid, Therefore ordered by the Court that the Clerk write to the Governor & Council, to direct the Keeper of the Records to send down to this Court the original Will of said Love to be produced on trial

Charles County ss. In Testimony that the foregoing order is truly Copyed from the Records of Charles County I have hereunto set my hand and Affixed the Seal of my office this 18th day of July Anno Domini 1781. Jno Gwinn Clk Chas. C^{ty}

[Samuel Maffitt, Cecil County to His Excellency Thomas S. Lee.] July 18

Sir I receiv^{d} your order to Collect Eleven Draught and nine Light horse from those who have been unfriendly to goverment, I have been Examining such peoples horses in Cecil County, and find they are Disabled from rendering services, by having their horses, or such part as were fitt for the Service taken from them last fall. I believe there cou'd be some horses procured for each service, cou'd money be had to pay for them, but if they are to be Obtained without, it will be Attended with so much Inconvenience and dificulty, that I must intreat your Excellency wou^{d} think of some other person more proper to Excute the Buisness.

[Danl Bowly, Baltimore, to His Excellency Governor Lee] July 19
(p̄ fav. of Cap. Johnson)

Captain Johnson and myself have a Schooner prepared to take in a load of Flour for the West Indies as we understand there is now full liberty to ship that article from this State by a late act of the general Assembly; but our Naval Officer not having any orders from your Excellency respecting it and the Law not being publisht, cannot grant us permission to load but under the late restriction, or a clearance where loaded. Capt Johnson therefore waits on your Excellency to know if we can be permitted to load & depart

[Heze^{h} Wheeler, Captn, Select Militia, Piscataway to His Excelency Thos S. Lee Esqr] July 19

Gentlemen Inclos'd you have a Pay Roll for a Company of Select Militia belonging to Prince Georges County, for service done at George Town, shall esteem it as Favour if your Honours will be so obligeing as to give directions for the Payment thereof, I have applyd to Col^{o} Joshua Beall Lieu^{t} of the County who refers me to you: if an Order on the Treasury should be Consistant shall be happy in having it inclosed by the return of the Post.

July 20 [Jas. Clayland Jun'r, Queen Anns County, to Gov. Lee]

I received your letter on 15th Instant bearing date 25th of June, I am exceedingly sorry that it did not come to hand before as I am persuaded the draught will cause a great disturbance and confusion with the People of this County, and perhaps had I received your letter in time cou'd have made the Draught gone much easier with them, for I am satisfied men might have been got for 20 Dollars Bounty to serve till the tenth of December next, provided the money had been paid to them at the time of their inlisting. I am much obliged for the Confidence you reposed in me and Still hope you entertain the same oppinion of me as before, tho' I have inlisted no men. Nothing gives me such pleasure and Satisfaction when I have it in my power to render my Country service, and should be very glad to be thought of at another time

July 20 Red Book No. 27 Letter 61 [Stephen Steward, West River, to the Council.]

My boat is now going to Baltimore as I shall want som flower for the use of the Galley I am Building for the State If it is Convenent I shall be oblige to you to Give my Clark the Barrer of this an order for ten Barls of seconds or such flower as will not Past Inspection as I shall Run short of Salt provition I want the flower to make use of with provsn.

July 21 [George Dashiell, Somt Coty, To The Honble Matthew Tilghman Esquire, President of the Special Council, Talbot County.] (Pr Favour Josiah Polk, Esq.)

Inclosed is a list of persons recommended by the field officers to supply the vacancies of Militia officers in the Salisbury Battalion in this county, several of the Gentlemen in the list now hold commissions, alterations in which has become necessary from the many resignations which have lately taken place in this county. Mr Done is recommended to the command of the Princess Ann battl he at present holds no militia commission, having resigned A colonels commission in Worcester, in consequence of his removal into this county, There is not at present any field officer to that Battalion, but Majr Irving, who requests that Mr Done may be appointed to the command of it, I am well assured that his appointment will be Satisfactory. We have raised a volunteer company of horse for thirty days. I am convinced that they will if continued be very serviceable, without horse, it appears to me almost impossible to prevent the enemy Sacrificing a number of our friends in this county, there has been repeated instances of their landing parties, taking horses and riding several miles from their vessels, I am at a loss to know how to supply the horses with forrage when in actual Service, as the comsry is without cash and request your honours directions, If Twenty five or thirty Horse can be furnished with forrage, I will immediately send up for Com-

missions for the Comp^{y} as I am assured that numbers of volunteers can be procured. Capt Gale was taken out of bed a few nights past by a person who call'd himself McMullen, who had under his command four white men and nine negroes, and carried to Clay Island, where he was most inhumanly whipt six lashes, and afterward hanged until they thought him dead, but some time after he was let down & recoved. McMullen endeavoured but could not prevail on his crew to hang him a second time (nor drownd him which he proposed) but compeld him, to take an oath not to bear arms against the King and dismissed him, Inclosed is a petition from Mr Sterling as I expect to march the draughts to Annapolis in a few days request y^{r} instructions relative to his son as soon as convenient July 21

A list of persons recommended for Militia Comsion^{d} officers in Somerset County To wit

Salisbury Battalion

Nanticoke Point Company
John McClester Capt
William Stewart 1st Lieu^{t}
William Waller 2nd Lieu^{t}
Wm Francis Dashiell, Ensign

Quantico Company
George Gale (of Geo) Ensign

Barren Creek Company
McKimmey Porter Ensign

Rewastico Company
Edwd Kellum 1st Lieut
Joseph Piper 2nd Ditto
James Phillips Ensign

Black Water Company
Robt Scrogin Ensign

Salisbury Company
Wm Bynge 2nd Lieut.
George James Ensign

White Haven Company
Joseph Cottman Capt.
William Gale 1st Lieut
William Cottman 2nd Lieut
Thomas Waters, Ensign

Princess Ann Battalion
John Done, Col^{o}

July 21
Red Book
No. 27
Letter 123

[Sam Smith, Balt., to Gov. Lee]

I Had the Honor to address your Excell^{ys} a few Days past. This Covers List of my Deliveries untill this Day The Coats were detain'd for want of Buttons & facings otherwise I should have made my Delivries at the Time promis'd, since my last I Have procur'd another waggon. By the Close of next week I Hope to put my affairs in such order as to be enabled to make Returns.

Red Book
No. 27
Letter 124

A Return of Clothing, Tents, Camp Equipage Officers Stores &c &c. deliver'd by Samuel Smith for Acco^{t} the State of Maryland from the 8th June 'till the 21 July 1781

102¾	yds Super^{fe} Cloth
100	Gall^{s} Spiritts
464^{lbs}	Coffee
1736^{lbs}	Lead
36¾	Pewter
1	Marques
8	Horsemens Tents
54	Tents
100	Camp Kettles
4	Rheam Cart. Paper
618^{lbs}	Soap
1164	Coats
498	Jacketts
1012	Overalls
1240	Shirts
227	Stockings
579	Hats
400	Stocks
440	pair Buckles
130	Blankets

Sam Smith

July 22

[Rich'd Dallam, Harford County, to Gov. Lee.]
(p Mr. Abram Norris)

The Recruiting Officers of this County not being supplyd with money, not one recruit has been obtain'd and therefore I have been obliged to Class the Militia for a draught to be made on Saturday next when the Battalions meet for the Purpose Being pressed by the Officers to send to your Excellency for the money alloted this County for recruiting service. I have sent the Bearer Mr Abram Norris down for what can be spared us, As the Officers are of opinion that on having the money they will be able to procure the men by Voluntary enlistment rather then they will submit to the draught which is very disagreable & may be distressing & a very Heavy Tax on Individuals & I fear will not be submitted to as the money has not been sent as the Law direct'd to Recruit men

The Assembly promised that the most speady measures should be taken to obtain money to pay the Certificates given by the Commissary for Horses seized. I am desired to ask when the payment of those Certificates may be expected in Cash & how to be obtain'd. I have several hundred Barrels of Corn flour & midlings on hand which I fear will spoil & should be glad to know how I am to dispose of them I have delivered Col° Smith 500 Barrels of Good flour I am preparing all I can for him. July 22

Your Excellencys directions & answer to the above & whatever may elce relate my Department by return of the Bearer will oblige His most ob^t Hum. Servt

[H. Hollingsworth, Head of Elk, to His Excellency Thomas Sim Lee Esqr, in Council.] July 22 Red Book No. 30 Letter 77

And please your Excell^y & Honours Having received no answer to my last, and being in the greatest difficulty, for want of money to execute yours, and Mr Sam. Smiths orders in the business of the State, which was then and is now Suffering for want of money to carry it on, I had in consequence of Mr Smiths direction, forwarded to Philadelphia for Sale some Flower in order to defray the expence of the rest, and to my great Mortification and disappointment not only that, but a parcel I had sent by Mr Smiths orders to be delivered to Mr John Purviance, are both condemned, as I am really afraid all that I can make out of the Materials I have will be, as the Wheat, and meal, sent me are bad, and the Inspecter very particular, having great quantitys of flour to choose out of; the greatest part from this State has undergone the same fate, the wheat lately received from Harford County has been damaged before it was put on Board the Vessel, by being (as I am informed) removed when the Enemys Cruisers were up the Bay to a Granary with a bad roof, and was there wet with the rain, was after removed to the water and stored where it heat, and is now musty and will not make good flour, the meal collected by the several Commissarys I described to Your Excellency & Honours in my former letters, nor is there cask better, as they assist to condemn the flour; the flour condemned is part of it of that bolted over again by Mr Smith's order, and part made under directions of Mr Baruch Williams in this county, since I had your orders for making the half of the wheat on hand, into superfine and the other half into Common, it has all fared alike condemned (without the benefit of the Clergy) I have acquainted Mr Williams of it, and Col° Dallam of the wheat, the flour condemned I have with the advise of our Delegates in Congress, and my Brother who I had consigned it to, delivered over to the Commissary and shall obtain his receipt for it on account of the state; I am filling some orders of Mr Smiths which he has given on me for flour by boulting it over

July 22 Red Book No. 30 Letter 77 again but fear it will undergo the same fate, these difficulties I foresaw at receiving the flour (or rather meal) and am sorry now to Experience and repeat them

P. S. I hope in a few days to take in considerable subscriptions, as that seems to be our only remedy now

July 23 [Richd Barnes, Leo^{d} Town to His Excellency Thos Sim Lee, Esqr]

By the last law for raising Troops for three years, I passed two, one of which I sent up to you. The other was a considerable time before he could git his pay from the Class, I have repeatedly ordered him here, to proceed to Annapolis, and informed him that he would receive his cloathes there, without its being in my power to git him to go. Agreeable to Law I could not oblige him before he had rec^{d} his cloathes, and did intend to send him with the Militia. However he has put it out of my power by going in a Brig of Ign^{a} Craycrofts that left this a few days past bound to Alexandrea, where he may be secured if you think proper to desire some Person there to have it done, His name is Henry Brian passed as a Substitute for three Years the 3^{d} Ap^{l} 1781

July 23 [Col. Joseph Dashiell, Worcester, to Gov. Lee.] (Fav^{d} by Mr. Saml Davis)

I Rec^{d} Your favour by Capt. Furnival of the 17th Ins^{t} Obsarve the Contents. I shall Deliver him his Vessell & Cargo upon his Giving me a Bond to pay the worth of the Vesil & Cargo upon Condemnation, I should have bin much oblidged to have had a Coppy of Traves's Deposition against Samuel Garrock:

Your Excellency has Directed me to send Sturgis & the other prisonars to the special Court But you have not inform'd me When and whare that Court Setts, as soon as I am made aquainted with the time & place they sett. I have apprehended Samuel Brittingham, and I have heard to Day that Mr Henry Denness has apprehended Robt Pitts at Pitts Landing and he is to be delivered to me this week. this Vesel that I have Seazed belongs to Mr Pitt, and I should Sopose that if Mr Pitts is found guilty that this Vesel will at Least Be forfeited to the State

I hope to heare from you as soon as posable that I may know whare to send the prisoners too.

July 23 Red Book No. 27 Letter 125 [Pat Sim Smith, Calvert County, to Gov. Lee.]

I have received the Instructions to suspend the Collection of part of the Horses directed by Act of Assembly, which has saved me much Trouble It would have been very difficult to procure the whole number there being so few nonjurors in the County—only two who had Horses worth taking and good Horses at this time very scarce

especially such as are within the descriptions of the Act—I have procured and passed five Horses for light Horse, some of them low in flesh but hope to have them in good condition in Ten days or a fortnight, and will either send them to Annapolis or deliver them elsewhere, as it may be thought proper to direct me. July 23 Red Book No. 27 Letter 125

Have as yet got only four draught Horses but expect the other two in a few days.

I took the Gear with only one Horse the Proprietors of the others having none worth taking.

These Horses are also low in flesh and will require some time to recover, However think the whole will be fit for use in a fortnight some of them in less time.

This Collection has been rather disagreeable, as the people parted from their Horses with great reluctance in general. I have in every case regarded the ability & convenience of Individuals to furnish Horses, and altho I might by a different line of Conduct have procured some better I flatter myself those I have got will be found good Serviceable Horses, and will answer the purposes for which they are Intended.

[Stephen Steward to the Council.] July 23 Red Book No. 27 Letter 51

I am going to send a Captain and Hands to the Head of Great Choptank for a vesell we have lying there wee are oblige to arm her to Get her over, wee are In want of a few Musket balls which I should be obliged to you to lend me about 30 musket Balls two Quire of Cartrig Paper and a Dozen of gun flints

[Henry Hooper Lt. Dor. Coty, Dorchester County, to Gov. Lee] July 24

In Consequence of a late Act of Assembly for raising two Battalions in this State, We have enlisted by voluntary Enrollments seventy Recruits, and three by adjudication as Vagrants, which have been delivered to Mr Robertson Stevens appointed by your Excellency to receive them. We are yet wanting three to make up the Quota for this County, whether it will be necessary to draught the Militia for so small a Deficiency provided they cant be enlisted voluntarily in a short Time, I shou'd be glad of receiving your Excellency's Directions. Godfrey Sullener is also sent with the other Recruits a substitute for a certain James Griffith an infirm man draughted in May last—inclosed are Depositions against a certain John Broughton apprehended as a Spy who is also sent under the Care of Mr Stevens to your Excellency. A List of Vacancies in the lower Battalion will be handed to your Board by Col^o Thomas Jones that new Commissions may be made out.

P. S. See Bundle of Informations ag^t disaffected Persons

July 24
Brown Book
No. 2
Letter 59

[W. Smallwood, Annapolis, to The Honor^ble^, The President of the Council]

As I shall probably remain in Maryland during the present summer to arrange and forward the Troops as they are raised, I should be glad that the Sale of the two Negroe women, the Property of the late Mrs Tasker might be suspended, provided it would not be productive of much Inconvenience to or materially interfere with the Views of the State.

Their Services will not only be valuable to me, but will in some measure promote the good of the Service as they will supply the Place of Soldiers—who other ways must be necessarily employed in my Kitchen.

July 24
Red Book
No. 27
Letter 59

[Stephen Steward to the Council.]

I had ocation to write to Mr J. Chase yesterday who I thought was In Counsell and would Present my letter to him to the Counsell his being out of town obliges me to send to you again as I Dont Chuse to Prosied with the States Part of the Porpass Cargo without your Petickuler Instructions. I have your two letters of 21 Ins^t^ agreeable to your Requst I shall go up to baltimore and Inspect Into the Gallie as fare as I Can and will make a Report to you I shall Call on you as I go up Prohaps a friday as to the Porpass Cargo Prohaps you may not be a Quanted with the Place and Contrey whare she lys or you would not Give me such Instructions as you have the Ship lys between Cap Inlopen light House and Indian River If she lys whare I think she Dus the Nearest harbor is lewes town which is fifteen miles your shurest will be to Cart them as they Cant be taken off on the Se Cost there the Expence and Resque of carting them to Wilmington and then to Anapolis the hole Expense will be grat as Inshurance will be at best 12½ to 15 ꝑ C^t^ the way. Inland at Present to many the oners Part of the Cargo is to have it wagoned over to the Head of grat Choptank whare thare is Good Navegation and good Houses to Put it In—from whare the Sloop lys to Choptank Bridge is 40 Miles think I am well a Quainted with the Rode but am not so well a Quanted with the Distance I shall send over Capt James Belt to Capt Weems asistance who is an abel good man I shall Depend on his Judgment weather to send our Part by water to Wilmington or through it to Choptank Bridg I must beg your amedit answer as Capt Jeams belt is now hear waiting till I hear from you the Dollers [dollies?] I shall have Carted to Kent Island.

July 24

[J. Woolford to His Excellency Thomas Sim Lee Esqr]

I do hereby Resign my Commission as High Sheriff of Dorchester County. Witness my Hand and Seal this Twenty fourth Day of July Anno Domini One Thousand Seven hundred and Eighty one—
Test
Wm Jameson

[Jno. Chaires, Queen Anns County to the Governor and Council.] July 25

I have Collected Ten Horses, five for light horse and five for Draught, which are all that were to be got from nonjurors in this County, the commissioners of the Tax has not given me instructions how to get the deficient number.

[George Dashiell, Som^{t} C^{ty}, to Gov Lee.] July 25

I embrace this opertunity by Serjeant Davis to inform your Excellency, that the draught directed to be made by the Act to procure recruits, was caried into effect in this county on the 20th of June & that the men draughted may be march'd to such place of rendezvous as your Excellency may direct immediately, but from the scarcity of money it has not been in my power to collect the 1/ on the property from the classes they were draughted from, it is probable the money will be collected by the time I receive your Excellencies instructions relative to them; The draught under the act to raise two battalions of Militia to reinforce the American Army &c will be made in this county on the 30th Ins^{t} in consequence of the former draught a few recruits have been raised to serve three years, and could be immediately march'd to Annapolis if furnish'd with their cloathing in the county, but am apprehensive they will not be willing to leave the county without the cloathing which they are to receive from the State, I have apprehended and shall in a few days send forward to me of the persons enumerated in your Excellencys Warrant, I request your instructions relative to the draughts and recruits above mentioned. M^{r} McBryde has declined to act under your Excellencies appointment for the purchasing of cloathing &c I dont find any power vested in the Co^{ty} Lien^{t} to appoint a person to execute any other part of the law but that which relates to procuring the horses, Cloathing is not to be had here, A considerable quantity of black cattle may be procured, belonging principally to the disaffected & are much exposed to the depredations of the enemy, under these circumstances, y^{r} Excellency will judge of the Expediency of securing them for the use of the State.

[The Humble Petition of Benj^{a} Howard Junr of Harford County To The Honble The Governor & Council of the State of Maryland.] July 25

Humbly Sheweth That your Petitioner is a son to the late Benj^{a} Howard Dec^{d} of the County afores^{d} and haveing taken the Management of the Personal Property & Estate into his own hands to keep it from Sinking or being Involved by Taxes or Assesments was seized on and Distressed by the high Sherriff of said County for fines Imposed on the said Benj^{a} Howard (when surviveing) for Preaching the Gospel—And that as your Petitioner has associated

July 25 and Enrolled himself in the Militia—And has Complyed with all laws that has been Established, and haveing no other subsistance for himselfe and a Large helpless family of Orphans but the Property—Now Seized on which if they are deprived of will perhaps be the means of reducing the Orphans to a Public Charge as they are all but Your Petitioner Incapable Getting a Liveing, and having no Other way of Redress earnestly—Begs Your Honours would Suspend the Sale of said Property untill the next Meeting of the General Assembly & Your Petitioner shall as in duty Bound ever Pray.

We Whose names are hereunto Subscribed know the above Facts to be true Given under Our hands this 25th day of July 1781.

Jas Bond of Jos. Lemuel Howard, J. Taylor, Richd Dallam, Jas McComas, Jacob Bond, Wm Smithson, Dan. Scott, Wm Bond son of Jos

July 25
Red Book
No. 22
Letter 9

[Dan'l of St T. Jenifer, Port tobacco, to Gov. Lee.]

Agreeable to your Excellencys Ltre of the 17th Cur. I have sent by Mr Igs Luckett 190 hats taken from Mr Ridgate, a List of which is enclosed, the prices he had set upon them (which I thought too high) I heretofore enclosed and have left to your Excellency & the Council to fix the prices. I have returned all the surplus horses 15 in No the Rest are very fat as your Excy may see by the apparance of those two in the Cart

Mr Leigh has not yet furnished the Waggon he promised but has engaged to do it next week.

I am obliged to tear up my old Books for paper the Comy has the above mentd List

July 25
Red Book
No. 8
Letter 3

[Tho M'Kean, President, Philadelphia, to Gov. Lee.]

I have the honor to inclose you an Act of Congress of the 23d instant and another connected therewith of the 24th for the purpose of procuring a loan of thirty thousand dollars for the distressed Citizens of South Carolina and Georgia, who have been driven from their country and possessions by the enemy and are lately arrived in this City; and also for obtaining charitable donations for the further relief of said sufferers.

Your sensations on reading what is already written have, I know, anticipated every thing I would wish on the occasion.

July 25

[Chs. Wiesenthal, Baltimore Town to Gov. Lee.]

According to an Order received from the Council I have fitted out a Chest for the Troops which I think Sufficiently compleat unless the surgeon should chuse to add thereto, as which I will procure if possible

The frequent Draughts from the Stock of Medicine which have been made not only for all our Hospitals which have been from the Beginning of the War here established but likewise the Chests fitted out even for the Continent have lessened the stock, notwithstanding I have contrived to procure by Exchanging or otherwise, that assortment we so often wanted, From the Continent we have received no supplies at all. So that we are pretty much exhausted, and my own Stock often must supply deficiencies. July 25

The necessary Hospital Expences have so much indebted me, to various Individuals who have furnished me, that I take the Liberty to call on the Council for an Advance from the Treasury—and to have money in hand to defray the frequent Expences daily occuring

The order I obtaind from the Council on the Treasurer not having been paid for want of Cash, I should think it most singular favor if it could be made Suitable to have it paid, as being in great Want.

[William Wise, Snow Hill, to His Excellency Thomas Sim Lee] July 25

May it please your Excellency. Being informed by our Delagates you had information of a Certain William Wise who had been trading with the Enemy. Knowing myself not to be the person. thought it my duty to make enquiry, which on enquiery in Accomack County found that a Will Wise and a Certain Beach have been Concerned for this two year past in that County in trade.

[John Smith Brookes, U Marlbro, to The Honb^le^ The Governor & Council] July 26

I had the honour of writing you last week by a Mr Scott and by whom I sent to the Commissary at Annapolis 12 Bullocks agreeable to your order. I also requested you would furnish me with a sum of money sufficient to pay drivers, and answer some other necessary expences, without which, it was impossable to proceed upon the business you had charged me with. I had not the pleasure to be answered and therefore have taken the liberty to trouble you again on the subject by Mr Lansdale.

I find myself under great difficulty to get Barrels. Mr Joseph Ford, says he has a quantity more than is necessary for his part and would gladly supply me upon your order. I therefore beg if agreeable to you an order on Mr Ford for what Barrels he has, more than sufficient for his own demands.

[James Murray, Cambridge, to His Excellency Thomas Sim Lee] July 26

The Bearer Mr John Stevens is over to solicit the Sherr^s^ Office of Dorset in the Room of Mr James Woollford who I'm informed has resigned.

July 26 This Gent. has acted for Mr Woollford some Time. As he is a Stranger to y^{r} Excell^{y} I believe it will be the Wish generally of the Inhabitants that he should fill that Station being well esteemed, and capable of such Business. A Gent: of sobriety and good Morals and who I make not the least Doubt would execute the Trust reposed in him with the greatest Honour & Credit. Your Excell^{y} will see a Specimen of what we have done in the Barge way. Hope you & y^{r} Honors will help us along with a few necessarys to compleat her as they are not to be had here.

July 26 [Rich'd Dallam, Harford County, to Gov. Lee.]

Agreeable to the directions received from your Excellency I applyd to Mr Calhoun for 20 Bush^{ls} of Salt. In answer he Inform'd me he had not a Bush^{l} of Public Salt nor never had nor orders or Cash to purchase with, Expecting Mr Calhoun w^{ld} immediately on receipt of your Excellency's orders to me deliver what Salt I wanted A Gent^{m} of this County lent me at the time I wanted what Salt was sufficient for my immediate wants, And as I am disappointed in geting it from Baltimore Town I must beg your Excellency will be pleased to direct that the Salt may certainly be delivered me some where as I w^{ld} not be disappointed for 4 times the Value of 20 Bush^{ls} of salt as I borrow'd the Salt in March last on Promise to return it in a Short time

July 26 [Wm Ennalls, Dorset, to His Excellency Thomas Sim Lee]

Mr John Stevens who is the bearer of this informs me that Mr James Woolford has resigned The office of Sherriff of this County, and that He intends to Apply for the office, and as He has some time past Acted in the office (having farmed it of Mr Woolford) from which circumstance I, as a Justice of the County Court must have had an opportunity of observing his conduct, He has requested I wou'd write your Excellency on the Occasion. I therefore in Justice to Mr Stevens must say, He has always appeared to me to be a Sober diligent man in his business, and in my opinion He is the most fit for the office of sherriff of any man in this County, who I think wou'd Accept of it. Mr Stevens is Collector of the Tax in this County, which will make it more convenient to him, than to another, to execute the Sherriffs office, and from his attention to his business, there is no doubt with me, but He may continue collector as long as the present Commissioners have the power of appointing.

July 26 [Edw'd Gaither, Jr., Elk Ridge, to J. H. Stone, Esqr, President of the Honb^{l} Council]

I Received a letter of this day from the Honble Council requesting the delivery of the Beef in their letter of the 1st ins^{t} I do assure you I have done every thing in my Power to Procure it. I have now got

it engaged and am Collecting them together—the People are not disposed to let the Public have their Beef agreeable to the Law. When I goe to Persons houses and talk to them about Beef they say their dry Cattle are out and I dont know where to find them. I some days go to twenty Peoples Houses and do not get a Single Beef, I am convinced no Person cou'd have taken more pains than I have done to procure the Cattle. I will do every thing I Posably can July 26

Please to excuse haste the bearer hereof I met on the rode.

[Geo. P. Keeports, Baltimore, to Gov. Lee.] July 26 Red Book No. 30 Letter 80

May It Please Your Excell^cy Last Sunday I Received From Philadelphia 500 Musq^ts with Bayonets & 500 Cartridge Boxes The Whole in Good order, some of the musq^ts Received a Little Rust on the Passage Coming Down But not so much as to Damage them

Mr Donaldson Yeates D. Q. M. at the Head of Elk who Forwarded the Arms to Desired to be Informed Wether they are State or Continental Property and wether he or I am to Pay the Transportation From Philadelphia which your Excell^y will Please to Inform

[Matt Ridley, Goods Bridge, Appamattox, to Gov. Lee.] July 26
(Fav^d by Dr. Goodwin)

The day after the arrival of the Troops at Head Quarters I was honored with yours of the 3^d Curr^t and in consequence thereof should have immediately returned to Maryland, had we not received orders to go an expedition which threatned personal danger. Under such circumstances I could not in justice to my reputation or the Gentlemen with whom I left home think of looking back. From that period, untill within these few days we have had constant cause to believe danger at hand which has of course operated to detain me. I have thought it much better to sacrifice a little of my time to this business than by a contrary conduct give cause of complaint to the Gentlemen of the Troop who seem much wounded when any individual of it by Absence avoids the difficulties to which they are naturally opposed. I flatter myself your Honorable Board will approve my Conduct.

By the last Accounts part of the Enemy were at Portsmouth & Suffolk & part embarked—the last supposed for New York. I must confess I am rather apprehensive their rout may be up the Bay.

Generals Morgan & Wayne are here with about 1500 Men Infantry & 100 Horse including ours. The Marquis is at Malvin Hill about 12 miles below Richmond. Col° Moylan has joined him with about 60 Horse. Col° White is expected every Hour with near 200.

Your Honorable Board will oblige me much by forwarding my necessary papers to Baltimore. It may not be amiss to remind you that the Act of Assembly will be proper & the private resolution as

July 26 to the limitation of price of the Tobacco & flour I propose to leave here in about two days & unless ordered by you do not intend to Annapolis. The Season advances & I shall wish to be on my Voyage as soon as may be. The time I stay at Baltimore will be very short.

July 26 [Arthur Whiteley, Dorchester County, to His Excellency Thos Sim Lee Esqr]

Mr Woolford our late Sheriff having Resigned his Office, Mr Jno Stevens, the Bearer hereof, is desirous of Obtaining the Commission he has farm^{d} the sheriffs office of Mr Woollford and I beleve has hitherto given satisfaction, he is also Collector of the Tax for this County the present year, and if y^{r} Excellency shoul^{d} think proper to Intrust him, with the sheriffs office I am fully of the opinion that he will discharge the trust Reposed in him.

July 26 [John Steward Lt Col. & P. C. M. to The Honb^{l} the President of Council]

In the examination of the prisoner brought before this Court it appears that a certain John Collins who was inlisted for the Extra Regiment did desert to Kent County. after remaining there untill the last draft he was hired as a substitute for a Captain Williamson's Class. I think it my Duty to acquaint you of the Premises that you may take such order there in as to you may appear right. I have the Honor to be your obed^{t} Servt

July 27 [Capt. J. W. Archer, Annapolis, To Honorable Major General Smallwood, Annapolis]

The disinterested views with which I entered into the army of the United States; the persevering ardor with which I have continued to lend my feeble assistance in support of the rights of mankind justify me in saying, that I am most anxious to put myself in a situation where I can render most service to my country, as well as pay those little attentions to rank which every soldier feels.

Conversant in the modes and discipline of Cavalry I am induced to offer my service to command a Troop of the Militia horse now raising in this state.

If you think I merit this appointment you will have the goodness to make my name known to the Governor & Council.

July 27 [Edwd Gaither Jr Commissary of A. A. County, Elk Ridge, to Gov. Lee.]

I send to Ann^{s} five head of Beef Cattle I expected to have sent thirteen head, but the People has disappointed me in the delivery of them, you may depend on my useing my endeavours to procure the number of Cattle I am directed to do, as soon as Posable—you cannot conceive the dificulties I am under in procuring them after I have

agreed with some of the People for their Cattle, they promise to deliver them at such a place on a day then fix'd they neglect doing it, I am then obliged to wait on them again, and as I observed in my letter of yesterday many say their Dry Cattle are out at large and dont know where to find them—from the best intelligence I can get Beef Cattle in this County is scarce I have had some conversation with some of the assessors who has had an opportunity of seeing the Peoples Cattle they tell me that the Stocks of Cattle in this County are very indiferent. I am informed their is great numbers of Beef Cattle in Montgomery County. I have some of the most Active Riders out that I can get and am out myself and to encourage the Riders I allow them five shill^s a Head which is all I am allow'd I dont see Gentlemen what I can do more towards forwarding the Collecting of the Cattle. Mr Chrisall informs me he has sent for the seven Head at Mr Denton Hammonds—my comeing down to procure a pasture for the Cattle will prevent my collecting them so soon unless I collect the whole number ordered before I came down. The Troops are so much in want of Flesh provisions I was thinking it would be best to send five or Six as I cou'd collect them. July 27

[Jas Calhoun, Baltimore, to the Governor and Council.] July 28

I had the honour to receive yours of the 23^d Ins^t respecting the common flour & Midlings in Harford County and have directed Mr Dallam to forward it to the Head of Elk as speedily as possible and deliver it to Donaldson Yates Esqr D. Q. M. Genl

The flour in the other Counties must be in a similar situation with that in Harford and I should suppose ought also to be delivered the Continental Storekeepers at George Town and this place, but as I have wrote your Honble Board several times lately for directions on this Subject cannot undertake to give any orders respecting it until you are pleased to instruct me how to act with regard to it. By the returns made me there is at least ten thousand Bushels of wheat or the produce thereof in each of the Counties of Frederick & Washington that in the latter will scarcely pay the charges of manufacturing and transporting either to George Town or here, and hence the impolicy of our Legislature in receiving grain so far from Market at the same price they allow at Landings. It will require a very considerable sum of money to pay for Casks & carriage of the flour & the Commissaries write me they have none, please inform what is to be done in this matter as I really fear some part of the flour will be lost to the State unless speedily del^d over to the Continental Stores and that I may be censured for it.

[Richd Barnes, Leo^d Town, to His Excellency Thos Sim Lee Esqr] July 30

I have directed the Militia to be raised here for reinforceing the Continental Army to be at this place on Thursday next where

July 30 they will stay till your directions are known, the sooner they are ordered from the Co^{ty} I think the better, as it will be very difficult to keep them together in it, There are many men drafted that have large Familys without any one to assist them to work, and have rent to pay which will be the ruin of themselves and familys, If they are obliged to march, and others not able bodyed! What must be done with such. Your directions on the above will oblige Your most ob^{t} Servt

July 30 [George Murdock, Fred. Town, to His Excellency Govr Lee]
(By Col. Stricker)

When your Excellency was here, I proposed coming down soon in order to get money to enable me to close my public Account, but as I am one of the Jurymen attending Court here and it is uncertain when I may be discharged from that business, If you think proper, be pleased to send me by Col Stricker Two or Three Hundred Pounds.

July 30
Brown Book
No. 7
Letter 65

[Lafayette, Malvern Hill, to Gov. Lee.]

As I have had no advice of the march of the Maryland levies, I take the liberty of informing myself, through your Excellency, whether it has yet taken place, Circumstanced as we are, a very small reinforcement is very sensibly felt, The enemy too appearing to waver in their movements, makes additions more consequential; not only to this State, but to Maryland. I have long been of opinion that, if we can but collect a respectable army in this quarter, we have little to fear, for yours. It is therefore I hope, that the calling out or arranging the select body of Militia, to act in Virginia is still vigorously persued. Languor in our public exertions for this campaign, may not perhaps be balanced by the most strenuous in future.

It is some time since an embarkation was made at Portsmouth and since the vessels fell down to Hampton road. The troops on board may amount to about 12 or 1300. My last accounts are of the 28th It is said, pilots have been taken on board, acquainted with the upper part of Chesepeak, and, they give out, the armament is destined for Baltimore. It has for several days, had the most favorable winds to proceed up the Bay, But, as it seems to be complete, its not going, is one proof, that, its destination is elsewhere.

Were I to conjecture on this occasion, it would be, that it is designed for New York; but, that some recent circumstance, has suspended its sailing. It is true, however, that the place of the British ministry is to carry their arms into Maryland; and without great exertions here, and further Southward, or a naval superiority, I do not see how it is to be prevented,

Permit me again, therefore to suggest to your Excellency, the vast importance of preparing the powers of your State, for the support of this. It is true, the uncertainty which appears in the enemy's

movements, may be construed differently If we suppose that, in order to secure their two principal posts, they mean only to leave a garrison at Portsmouth, it may present us with an opportunity of acting against it. In such a case we should not have our succours to collect, lest we should lose the moment, And, if their whole force remains we shall have a yet stronger call for reinforcements. The only event which can render this unnecessary, is their evacuating the State. But we know of no facts upon which to build this conclusion July 30 Brown Book No. 7 Letter 65

I beg you to direct the levies to join this army.

[Wm. Ennalls Hooper, New Markett, to His Excellency Thos Sim Lee] July 30

Agreeable to your request I inform you that have taken from Nonjurors and those that have laid down their Arms six Horses the Collection here goes on slow for those people in general are very poor; that a person may ride several days and not procure a Horse; have applied to the Commissioners of the Tax to level the residue on the other Inhabitants of this County: and expect in a few days to have the whole of them procured.

[Laurence O Neale & William Bayly to His Excellency Thomas Sim Lee Esqr] July 30

The bearer of this Mr Alexander Adams is a Young Man of unexceptionall Character and is desirous of becoming a Soldier I take the Liberty of recommending him to your Excellency's favor if your Excellency will Give him a Commission we have not the least doubt but He will merit the appointment

Mr. Alexander Adams is a young gentleman who lives in my neighbourhood—is very much Esteem'd & I beleive a worthy deserving Young man.

Rd Wootton, Chas Gr Griffith, R. Anderson, J. H. Nicholls.

[Certificates respecting Jno Robertson a Draught from Chs County] July 30

Nanjemoy 30th July 1781

We hereby Certify that for above a year past John Robertson has lived in this neighbourhood and being his nearest neighbours have been often in Company with him to our knowledge he has had several severe attacks of the Rheumatism. We have been witnesses to swellings in his wrists at several times which appeared to be very painful and have often heard him complain of being afflicted with the same pains in different parts of his body

Ignatius Byass
Andw Baillie
John B. Meek

July 31 [Petition of John Robertson to the Governor and Council]

Whereas your Petitioner hath been drafted and known himself to be incapable of rendering the service to the state required from disease, which your petitioner hopes will appear to your Excellency & Honours by the inclosed certificate, your Petitioner humbly requests he may be discharged from the Service and your petitioner as in duty bound will ever pray &c &c.

July 31st 1781

I hereby Certify that John Robertson hath Laboured under a Rheumatic complaint upward of four years which appears to be immovable by remedies; and I am of opinion the disease is such as to render him utterly unfit for military duty

G. R. Brown

July 30 [W. Smith, Nathl Smith, Thomas Johnson, Baltimore, to Stephen Steward Esqr Baltimore]

The Commissioners for the Defence of Baltimore Town &c having taken into Considation your proposals for purchasing the Gally fitted out for the defence of Patapsco River &c. do agree to take for said Gally fifteen hundred & fifty pounds Specie or other money eaquel in Value thereto—or when the whole of the Accounts are Collected 5 ꝑ Ct at the foot of the Accts will be excepted, the money to be paid when the Gally is dellevered—an Answer to the above proposals is expected in ten days from this date after which time they are not to be Binding.

July 31 [And. Buchanan, Balt. Coty to His Excelly Thos Sim Lee Esqr]

I am requested to inform you by Col Nicholson that his Company of light Horse will be ready in a few days and wait your Orders. You will likewise forward their Commissions

July 31 [Adam Hunter, Fredericksburg, to His Excellency Gen Smallwood Annapolis]

In my Brothers Absence who has resided at his Plantation in Culpepper ever since our late Alarm of the Enemy coming this way, I have your favour of 29th currt by Express, to which am sorry I cannot return a satisfactory answer. We have long discontinued the manufactory of small Arms of which none remain on hand, & the Workmen employed in that Branch, are so dispersed that we believe it would be difficult matter to engage them again. I shall tomorrow transmit your letter to my Brother, to whom I beg leave to refer you for Satisfaction on this Subject, but am apprehensive he will not be able to furnish the Accoutrements mentioned. I am with the Greatest Respect

[Sam Smith, Balt., to Gov. Lee.] July 31 Red Book No. 27 Letter 126

I was Honor'd with your Excellency's orders this Day too late I fear to procure the 4 horsemens tents all the Canvass being cut up for Com: tents 5 of which went down on Saturday 34 will go with the waggons I hope to morrow & 4 will be delivered Gen Gist for his guard and family. I expect there will be horses sufficient To morrow to forward the remainder of the waggons Mr Cromwell having began to seize. The drums & fifes I expect from Philadelphia this or next week there are none made here. My friend writes they are ready but he had not procur'd sufficient money from the Tobacco to pay for them. Doct^r^ Wiesenthal has promised me a set of Amputating Instruments

[Pet^o^ of John Anderson To His Excellency Thos Sim Lee] [July]

Humbly sheweth, That your Pititioner Having allmost bien Confined 3 Weeks I have considered my situoan and having no frind To Asist me in this place I owld willingly Serve The State Ether By watter or Land if your Excellancy will be so goud as for to rellice me Out of this place and I will do any thing that your Excellency will think proper I am Destut'd of Mony or I ould have not Left ye Town without your Liberty I have frinds in ye armey which owld asist me If that I could get to the camp as for the acount of Them men that I told your Excellency of ther is farther Prouf by a prisoner that is here Confind I Beg that Your Excellency will Lett me be tried for any falt that I have don sence in ye State as I ould willingly be in Service to the State which will be the only weay That I can Reprive my carachter to my Brother who Has served since the comencment of the War I Earnestly Requist yur Excellency will consider my Petition and your Petitioner as in Duty Bound shall Ever Pray.

[John Travers of Worcester County To His Excellency Thomas Sim Lee Esqr Governor of the State of Maryland & the Honourable Council] [July] Brown Book No. 9

your Petitioner now under Confinement in a poor State of Health many miles from home & having no friend nor Acquaintance to be of any help to him Nor Even proper Necessaries to Shift & relying upon the Promise of y^r^ Excellencys & Honours Clemency as there is a Barge fitting out wou'd be glad if y^r^ Excellency & Honours, woud permit him to take a cruize as your Petitioner is fully Satisfy'd it will Be of infinite Service to the Country as to property &c Y^r^ Excellency was pleased to Ask if I cou'd give Security I make no doubt but to give such as will Satisfy you if you will please to Enlarge me when at home y^r^ Excellency may depend that I will return to my family & collect such Evidence as will support what I have sworn to to appear at Special or Talbot Court y^r^ Petitioner Begs Pardon

[July] Brown Book No. 9 for Troubling you but having a Distracted family & no one to support them but myself & a wife in a poor condition hope y^r Excellency & honours will take it into Consideration as I have no more to inform y^r Excellency that you will take Security for my Appearance at Special or Talbot Court as Evidence

[July] Brown Book No. 9

[John Travers To the Honourable Council]

y^r Petitioner having some further information to Give his Excellency & y^r honours & from his Excellency & Honours Promise of Admitting me as an Evidence hop'd that you wou'd have releas'd me that I might have gone to a distress'd family that has nobody to maintain them but myself & being taken away so suddenly have not a Shift of Linnen & am full of Vermin & being friendless here & if your Honour Pleases to grant it to me I can give you any moderate Security & good People in Somerset or Worcester County to appear against those People whom I lodge information against. I hope you will consider my distress'd Situation & have me before y^r Honours & release me from this dismal Place & Order me before y^r Honours

[July ?]

[J. Travers to Gov. Lee]

May it Please y^r Excellency I ask you pardon for being so troublesome But having made application to some of the Council they Inform'd me that I must apply to y^r Excellency as it was intirely in y^r Breast to Pardon me & admit me to give Security if so I am confident in the Promise I have rec^d from y^r Excellency from the Information I have gave & am ready to give, may it Please y^r Excellency they tell us we are to draw no more provisions & the place where I am confin'd there is near thirty in one little room. Some of their Honours informd me that there was a Special Court to be held on the Eastern Shore if so hope you will grant my request as you may depend I wou'd return to my family & not make a Sacrifice of them or if Mr Garrick is to be tried here & as I am to be a witness against him I will give Col. Dashiel Good security for it I humbly Beg it as a great favour you will Vouchsafe to admit me to your Presence to lay the rest before you & the favour shall be Ever Acknowledg'd

[July ?] Brown Book No. 9 [Sunday Morn]

[J. Travers to Gov. Lee]

May it Please y^r Excellency I hope you will Excuse my troubling you on this day but from y^r hurry of Business on any other thought this is the most Convenient to lay my distressd situation before you I having such Violent pain in all my limbs & having no money to support myself Even with the mere Common Necessaries of Life which from the scarcity of Provisions here renders it impossible without purchasing it my self of which I am incapable of & I being hurried away at half an hours warning & with the assurances of Colonel Dashiel that y^r Excellency from his recommendation wou'd

Admit me as states Evidence & should return Immediately for the better apprehending those people from that Assurance I have not a shiff of Linnen but am full of Vermin & Nothing to lay on tho I am Extremely happy in Being brought before y^r Excellency for Tryal & from y^r Excellency's Promise of Pardon I am ready with my information y^r Excellency was Pleas'd to ask me if I cou'd give Security to special or General Court when at home I can give you moderate security & good men & then shall be able to make Mr Garrick know me & as something more which is material concerning him has Occurd to my memory, y^r Excellency mentiond my Property, I have no Land nor Negroes But a few Household Goods which I hope y^r Excellency will consider for the sake of my wife &c what a distress'd situation she must be in her condition the distance I am from her & she not knowing what is become of me, y^r Excellency may depend I always was ready to serve my Country at Alarms pay Taxes or any thing Else with the greatest Alacrity I never lay in debt with the Sheriff one moment & y^r Excellency may depend this is the first Time I Ever was confin'd I hope y^r Excellency will Order me before you to receive the rest of the Information & Enlarge me as you will deliver a distressd family from many Calamities I trust in y^r well known Clemency

[July ?] Brown Book No. 9 [Sunday Morn]

Sunday Morn

NB. I hope y^r Excellency will Order me up to morrow.

[J. Travers to Gov. Lee]

[July ?] Brown Book No. 9

May it please your Excellency I am sincerely sorry that I am Obligd to address you under these circumstances had it been for any thing Else shou'd have been proud I was never confined before in my life which makes it much harder with me & the Bitter Blasphemy renders it far more disagreeable the horrid Stink & Iron is beyond Expression when your Excellency was down I did not know you & was sorry I was wanting in Respect I am an Englishman Born & bred but now have family connections in America I have ever since this present dispute been conformable to the Laws of the State I have marchd kept Guard Never was behind hand with the Sherriff but always conformd with the greatest Alacritly I never shoud have been led into this (illegible) but Never hearing from my Parents till about the first day of may I had advice sent me of Letters from my father by a first cousin of mine a Major Arrivd with the fleet with Cash &c but have not had the pleasure of Getting them I never meant to Injure America let what will Appear I hope to make it appear to the Contrary.

Lt Colonell Dashiell when I came away told me upon his word that he wrote to your Excellency that he never suspected me & that I was to go back Again & further to Admit me for the States Your Excellency may depend upon my doing Every thing for the good of

[July ?] Brown Book No. 9

my Country if y^{r} Excellency will be pleased through your great Clemency to reinstate me for the sake of a Worthy family I am connected with. May it Please your Excellency if from the Ploughman up to the Statesman deals with them, which I make no doubt will be made appear when Opportunity Permits tho I never traded nor got one Six penny worth of wares from them I Humbly beg your Excellency will be pleasd to let me out into the other part of the Jail & take of my Irons y^{r} Excellency may depend that I will not Behave dishonourable in any respect as I am fully convinced that I must be laid up sick.

[July] Brown Book No. 9

[Information about John Traverse]

John Traverse has been in the Country ab^{t} 15 yrs an only child to a worthy man and to receive 50£ a year from him heard his cousin had arrived in Virginia & had Letters for him from his Father went down in a schooner boat of his own to Portsmouth with Passengers whilst there he was advised by Jacob Hayward a Quaker to take a Protection which he consented to & which was brought to him by said Hayward acknowledges the paper addressed to His Ex^{cy} Genl Leslie to be of his hand writing that it was a Copy for paper delivered to him by Capt McMullen commander of one of the Enemys Barges saw Gerock at Portsmouth on Whitsunday he went down voluntarily he was not taken by the Enemy Gerock told him he was going to settle a Trade between Portsmouth & Balt^{o} & Hayward was with him does not know that Gerock has a Protection he went down with him (Traverse) in his Vessel with David Matthews on Whitsunday 3 June last & his son Uriah Tars and Jno Merchant on Pocomoke all of Som^{t} County Gerock said Vessels of his own were to come from Portsmouth & meet those he should sail from Baltimore & take the things to Portsmouth lodged a Sum of money with D Heuston to purchase plank Gerock said he intended to carry the plank to Portsm^{h} where it sold high & that he should purchase a large French Schooner for the Purpose Gerock & Hayward were together the whole Time Gerock got back to Worcester in a Boat belonging to Elijah Sturgis he left Portsm^{o} the same day he did Philip Selby was at Portsmouth when he was there said he was taken was on board with Doyle & owned part of the Vessel Jacob Hayward was at Portsmouth same time, told him he had carried several loads of corn down & was then going up for one carried his corn from Virginia told him he had every necessary paper to carry on Trade—appeared to be very busy and very much acquainted there offered his Services to every body that went down. Asked Mr Wilson if he had any corn to sell he told him he had & would sell it at 2/6 hard money per bushel he had about 1000 bush^{ls} Traverse told him he sh^{d} carry it below. Wilson said he did not ask him where he was going with it he said he would sell it to him & receive part down & the residue when he

returned & send for his scow and beat out the Corn and load him in the Night Traverse told him that if he took any it would be about 500 bushels & that he would come the next Morning he took it Traverse told him he knew he could not take it in the day Time but must take it in the Night Wilson said he would [July] Brown Book No. 9

[Thos. Doyle to Gov. Lee] [July]

May it Please y^r^ Excellency I hope you will Excuse my troubling you But hope you will not suffer my Property to be lost the sloop at the wharf is now sunk & the condition she is in must undoubtedly be lost I should be glad you will let me send to have her taken care of as I am informed I can find Employ for her which will be better than letting her lay there

[Thos. Doyle to His Excelency The governor & the Council] [July]

The Petitioner having been confined some weeks & not having in My Power to go to collect my Debts to support my family Prays y^r^ Excellency & Honours will be kind Enough to order his Account of Twenty six pounds specie or bills of credit to the value as it Will be a great help to me & family till I am released & hopes y^r^ Excellency & honours Will take into your Consideration the Sloop is being eating up with the worm & let me have her taken Care of & likewise hopes your Excellency & honours Will permitt me to Enquire in to property that Was Detain'd from me When I was waiting on your Excellency at the State house such as provisions &c & hopes y^r^ Excellency & Honours Will take it into your Consideration & Release me if your Excellency has any further Commands I shall Be in town

[Sam. Smith to Gov. Lee.] [July] Red Book No. 27 Letter 122

I did myself the Honor to write your Excell^y^ ꝑ post Informing of the Loss of two Craft with 54 H^ds^ Tobacco, to which I beg your reference, this will purhaps Injure us in Phila^a^ I must Intreat you Imm^y^ to deliver Mr Muir an order for 100 H^ds^ Tobacco. Mr Keeports Demands on me are equal to £600 specie & will be more unless he has Iron delivered to him, It will Cost £25 ꝑ Ton or perhaps more. Bo^t^ by the Single Ton. If I had a quantity of Iron put into my Hands I could sell it from £25 to £30 ꝑ Ton. In Philad, it sells at £35 Expence of Transport about £4 ꝑ Ton

[Stephen Steward to Gov. Lee.] [July ?] Red Book No. 27 Letter 60

Ples to tel the Counsel^r^ Mr Thomas Tillards Mill is no wais fit to Receive the Publick wheat for Grat Part of the wheat that was taken In is now lying there Roting and what flower they maid is In the same way the People are now Carring In wheat and Puting it among the Rotten wheat the Mill House I am tould is so lekey that nothing Can be kept Dry and it has not more Water then to Grind

[July ?] Red Book No. 27 Letter 60

fore months In the year it a Pears to me all the wheat that Careyed there is lost to the Publick I beleve no flower has bin taken from that Mill this sumer I have had it from Good authority they have bin Giving out the Rhoten flower out to the Hoggs

August 1 Red Book No. 18 Letter 126

[George Scott, to Mr. John Parks, Baltimore Town.]

I received your Letter requesting I would make enquiry whither any of the prisoners in Fred^{k} Goal charged you as an associate in their Plot. I appy'd to Dr Thomas and Col^{l} Johnson to know what you was accused of—and the answer they gave me was that some person in Washington County had confessed something relating to it—but could not say what it was.

I apprehend you will not come under the Act for High Treason—As soon as I can inform myself what is alledg'd against You will let you know. Let me know what I must give you for Two or three Gallons of the Rum Mr Neile has to sell for You

August 1

[James Calhoun Com^{y} Genl W. Shore Baltimore to Mr Hezekia Reeder Com^{y} of Provisions for Charles County Port Tobacco]

If the Wheat you collected for the Public is, yet unground and you can forward it to this place please do so as it can be conveniently manufactured here, but if it is already ground up please forward the flour to George Town and deliver it to the Continental Storekeeper there taking his receipt for the same.

It is not with me to fix prices to any of the Articles you mention. Such provisions as are procured under Acts of Assembly have the prices of each specie affixed by Law and any purchases made by order of the Council must be done agreeable to that order. As for Labour Cariages casks &c you must get them on the best terms in your power and apply to the Governor & Council for such sums of money as may be necssary in the execution of your office as none goes through my hand, for any such purpose

August 1 [Copy]

[La Fayette, Malven Hill, to His Excellency Governor Lee.]

Inclosed is a copy of a Letter from Commodore Baron, by which it appears to be his opinion that the Fleet is destined up the Bay. I dare say your Excellency will direct the necessary information to be given to the different Quarter Masters, and Commissaries, whose stores may be exposed—

August 1 [Copy]

[La Fayette, Malvern Hill, to His Excellency Governor Lee]

I have the Honor to enclose your Excellency the Report which has been made me this Morning from Commodore Barron, of the Fleet's having sailed (mentioned in my preceding Dispatch of this Date) and of its Destination being Baltimore

Hampton July 31. 1781 July 31 Copy

The Fleet weighed this morning from Cape Henry and stood up the Bay; tis certain they are bound to Baltimore (40 sail in number with several large Barges full of Troops) remains in the Road 2 men of War 8 sail other Vessels. By a Man from Portsmouth last night am informed Cornwallis is still at Portsmouth with part of his Troops. I think the above Fleet must contain near 3000 men and 200 Horse

I am S^r^

James Barron, Commodore

Marquiss la Fayette

Hampton July 31. 1781

The Fleet weighed this morning at Sunrise and stood up the Bay about 15 miles the wind & tide being ahead they anchored off Cherrystones They are certainly bound to Baltimore. By a Person from Portsmouth last night are informed Lord Cornwallis and some Troops are at Portsmouth

I am &c
James Barron Comm̄

Marquiss La Fayette

Ex of Letters from M^r^ McHenry to his Excellency Governor Lee dated Melvern Hill 1st August August 1 [copy]

The whole Army, that which is on the south side of James River and that which is on this side, will be in motion to day towards Fredericksburgh or for your Support—

Extract of a Letter from same person dated same day

The case of difficulty is nearly decided. The British appear determined to try our Spirit and Patriotism. Maryland cannot keep her ground at first; but let me prognosticate, that the event will be different from the Enemys expectations

The levies which the Marquis has ordered on are to be stopped, and applied as your Excellency will perceive by the inclosed letter which is left open for your perusal. General Gist goes to Baltimore— The officer who carries it has instructions in case he should meet the levies to return them to Maryland—

At this moment it is impossible for me to say what succour you can have from this Army; but you shall soon know—

[James Murray, Cambridge, to His Excellency Thomas Sim Lee] August 1

I am solicited by Mrs M. Hughes Wid^o^ of the late Revd Philip Hughes to apply to y^r^ Excell^y^ & Hon^rs^ for Permission to let her go to New York to see her Children. She is at this Time in the Jerseys with her Sister who is marr^d^ to a Col^o^ Vanhorn, She informs

August 1 me Govern^{r} Livingston has three Times refused letting her go in without a Pass from the Governour of the State she came from. Some of her Effects are left behind with me to send up by first safe Conveyance, from this you'll perceive that she has left this State and I believe without any Expectation of Returning to reside here again, and as she is now, I presume, become a Residenta of the Jerseys Y^{e} Govr of th^{t} State, were he so acquainted, might wth more Propriety take her Case under Consideration.

However If y^{r} Excell^{y} & Hon^{rs} could be of any Service to her, you'd greatly oblige her, I would take Care to contrive her whatever should be transmitted to me from y^{r} Honors.

August 1 [Philip Casson, Caroline County, to the Governor and Council.]

Mr William Douglass being in a bad State of Health, refused to act under the Act to procure a sufficient number of Horses for Light Horses and for carriage &^{c} whereupon the Lieutenant appointed me for that Purpose; In consequence whereof, I have taken into my possession, eight Horses from Nonjurors, mostly fit for Draught Horses, the Light Troop now raising in this County having procured nearly all the Horses fit for Light Horses, therefore am doubtfull of Gitting any really fit for that service the remaining 5 I hope to get in a few days—the Horses I have taken are but thin and will not be fit for service unless fed well some time, which I shall take care to have done

August 1 [Rich'd Dallam Abingdon, to Gov. Lee.]

I expect a Number of Substitutes for the Draughts of the Militia of this County will be brought in within in a few days—And as meat provisions are very hard to be obtained I shall be glad to Secure orders where I am [to] order them or what Officers will be order^{d} to receive them.

We have two Companies of Select Militia for this County a return of these Officers shall be sent Your Excellency as soon as they come to hand, I shall be in want of knapsacks & Canteens to Euip them shall be oblige if your Excellency will Please to inform me where they are to be obtained

The Collector of Horses for this County has got sufficient to make up two Teems & at present I am much in want to Cart the public flour & therefore should be glad of an order to him to deliver them to me & Liberty to engage Waggoners to drive them from the Draughts of the militia of this County

August 1 ["Indorsed Rejeck'd by Go & Council"] [Thos. Duffy, Ann^{s} To his Excellency the Governor and the hon^{ble} the Council of the State of Maryland]

Your petitioner a subject of the State of Pennsylvania sometime in the month of January last was unhappily cast away; by which

accident, he was reduced so very low, for want of Raiment and money, that he could not then return to his Usual place of abode. August 1 [" Indorsed Rejeck'd by Go & Council "]

That soon after this State's Boat the Plater coming up the Bay fell in with your Petitioner and others his unhappy comrades, In consequence of which at the solicitation of the Capt of said Boat, and your petitioners incompetency to proceed on his return, he engaged to serve in the plater for three months, at which period of Time he well expected to be enabled to return to his desired place of residence. But now, so it is, may it please your Excell^{y} & Honour—That your petitioner at the expiration of the said three months, was obliged to tarry in this city for his pay, and discharge, the latter of which has been and is now refused him, That during his stay here to receive the reward of his services he has been by some means enrolled in the Militia and as if Fate was determined to continue his troubles was last Friday drafted as a Soldier.

Your Petitioners Attachment to his Country can be no better verified than by the general Adage " that the Tree is known by its Fruit."

Your pet^{r} therefore humbly prays that (the premises considered) you will grant him such relief as the peculiar circumstances of his case require and you shall deem just and meet

[Dan'l of St. Thos Jenifer, Dan'l Carroll, Richard Potts, Philadelphia, to Gov. Lee.] August 1 Red Book No. 5 Letter 64

Mr Whitesides informs me that the Bale of Baize is ready to be delivered to y^{r} order, & and the Com^{sy} of Military Stores that the remaining five hundred Stand of Arms will be forwarded in a few days. The 2 field ꝑ^{s} have been waiting y^{r} orders. Mony is necessary to forward them. Please to favor us with an order on Mr Mullahon for the proceeds of the Tobacco which you mentiond was to be disposd of by him for our use

[John Smith Brookes, Upper Marlbro, to the Governor and Council.] August 2

I have your favour by Mr Lansdale covering me £40 which sum is by no means sufficient to answer the demands against me—and if you can make it convenient I shall be much obliged for a further supply.

The Quarter Marster of this place has applyed to me for provisions for the support of the drafts which the Lieutenant of this County has ordered to rendezvous here. I have no orders from you respecting this business, and if I am to supply them it will be necessary that you furnish me with money for that purpose. I have no salt provisions on hand and their number will be too few to admit of killing fresh at this warm season. No Bacon has been offered in payment of Taxes and it will be very difficult to procure it at this day without the money—beg you will favour me with a line upon this subject by the return of Mr Landsdale

August 3 [John Dorsey & Co, to His Excy The Governor and the Council]

We are informed that you will want a Quantity of Cordage for the Gally, Mr Steward is to build for the State, and also for the Gally offered the State by the Merchants of Baltimore, if purchased by Government. The Cordage for the new Gally will probably amount to 12 or 1500£ specie. We will engage to furnish the Quantity, at the current market price in Gold in Baltimore for such a Quantity & to take the new Emission in Payment as specie if the public will advance one third or one half the Purchase Money, to furnish Hemp the Cordage shall be delivered when requested.

[P. S.] The advance of ½ will be more agreeable. If the Enemy should destroy our Rope Walk we will return the Money advanced upon Request.

[Rt F. Hooe, Alexa, to Gov. Lee.]

August 3
Red Book
No. 28
Letter 53

An express has this moment come in with a Letter from Genl Weeding to our County Lieut—the Copies of Weedens & Barrons Letters I enclose. By Genl Weedens Letter there seems little reason to doubt of the Enemy's fleet being on their way up the Bay. Whether up Potomack or to Balto or the head of Elk is uncertain—It is equally necessary to give you the earliest notice & therefore I have charged Mr Langdon to ride all night

August 2
Red Book
No. 28
Letter 54

[G. Weedon, B. G., Fredrickg, to The County Lt or Commanding Officer Fairfax County]

Inclosed have the Honor of transmitting you a Copy of Commodore Barons letter to the Marquis by which it appears to be his opinion that the fleet are coming up the Bay, you will judge from this Intelligence whether the Militia of your County shou'd not immediately be called out and arranged (you'll see the proprietty) therefore request you will immediately call out the Militia of your County without loss of time

P. S. Since writing the above certain Accots have arrived of their standing up the Bay.

July 30
Red Book
No. 28
Letter 55

[Jas. Baron, Commodore, Millusk near the old Fort to Marquis de La Fayette]

I have the honor to inform you that this morning early 40 sail of the Fleet weighed from Hampton road having a number of Horse & Troops with twelve bay Barges full of men & stood down toward the Capes having got in the proper Channels endeavour'd to stand up the bay, But the wind & tide being a head have anchored near the Capes—from every movement I think they are bound up the Bay they have left ten sail in the road an two men of war this fleet must contain near three Thousand Troops as they were very full the

wind has just shifted fair to go up the Bay I shall be able to Inform you by my next what course they take, one of the Transports is on ground on Welloughby's Point, tho I can't think if they were bound to sea they could wait for her. July 30 Red Book No. 28 Letter 55

[Uriah Forrest Leonard Town, to His Excellency Governor Lee] August 4 Red Book No. 26 Letter 112

Humanity alone induces me to gratify the request of Joshua Hebb one of the drafts in this County addressing your Excellency relating to his Situation. This poor man has five small Children all of whom are in the Hooping Cough and expects every Hour that his Wife will furnish him with a sixth. They have nothing to depend on for subsistance but His labour. What then will be the distress of this family should not your Excellency & the Honorable Council discharge him?

There are only two others among the whole of these drafts that I know of (and I have taken some Pains to inform myself of their respective situations) that I think merit the Interposition of your honble Board. These are Clerk Spalding & Luke Mattingly both of whom are very Poor, Rent Land and have a number of Children who must inevitably starve if these Men are not permitted to return As they bring with them recommendations from Colonel Barnes & Certificates from their most Respectable Neighbours which will have more weight than any thing I cou'd say.

[Job Garrettson, Baltimore Town, to the Governor and Council.] August 4

The bearer hereof, Henry Oram is a very poor man and to my knowledge has Six or Seven small Children, and no manner of support for them only his own Labour, has but a small stock of any kind & scarcely £20 worth of moveable whether Stock or furniture. I am well convinced that its from religious Principles that he has neglected to attend the Military Duty when called on by his Officers, his Land now lays under Execution for a fine of 20£ he has not above 60 or 70 acres of very poor & indifferent Land The timber entirely Cut of so that it will sell for but little more than what will pay of the fine & fees he is also drafted to go to camp which renders his case more deplorable, and unless he should be released by your Excellency & your Honble Council from his fine it will most probably end in the total ruin of himself & helpless family the above considerations have moved me to represent him as an object worthy of the Clemency of your Excellency & Honble Council

[Petition of Henry Oarum To his Excellency Thomas Sim Lee Governor of the State of Maryland & his Honourable privy Council] August 4

The humble petition of Henry Oarum to your Excellency & Honours Sheweth That your Petitioner having a Wife and Seven Small Children and being Possesor of about Seventy Acres of poor

August 4 Land mostly clear of Timber and he also being Weak & Infirm and Conscientiously Scrupulous of bearing Arms was fined twenty Pounds specie for non Attendance at Muster at the last Alarm & his Land Executed therefore and to be sold on Wednesday next the Eighth of this Ins[t] August. Your distressed Petitioner under these deplorable Circumstances to add to his Calamity is draughted for a Soldier in the Quota of Troops to be raised by this State. In this truely pitiable Condition your Oppressed petitioner has no Other Refuge to fly to but to your Excellencys usual and well known Clemency & Mercy in this his Case, your Petitioner is the more Emboldene to supplicate Your Excellency & Honour's Interposition in his favor, as he has had the Honour to hear of Your Order to the Sheriff of this County to Suspend the Sale of Thomas Burgins Land who Enjoys four Times the Quantity of Land more than your poor Petitioner & has only two Children & your Petitioner Seven small helpless Babes, Your Excellencys alleviating and Mitigating his Distress by any Means will save a Family of Seven Small Children a helpless Woman & your poor Petitioner from Ruin & Destruction & shall ever entitle Your Excellency & Honours to the Constant Prayers of Your Petitioner

August 4
Brown Book
No. 2
Letter 40

[W. Smallwood, Annapolis, to Gov. Lee.]

The irregular Proceedings of the County Lieu[ts] must involve your Board and myself in endless difficulties and render it impossible for me to ascertain, when the counties have compleated their quotas, or to do justice to those Substitutes who have been or may be defrauded of their money by the classes or Persons by whom they are hired—these reasons induce me to request you to require the Lieu[ts] to make returns of all Recruits, Draughts and Substitutes, raised or that may be raised under the Acts of October & May Sessions, agreeable to the one I have enclosed, & that they may keep a field Book recording therein the names of all men Recruited drafted & substituted under said Acts

August 5 [The Humble Petition of Stacey Arms of Charles County Widow. To his Excellency Thomas Sim Lee Esq[r] Governor and the Honourable Council]

Humbly Sheweth That your Petitioner being left a Widow with Three Children one Son and two daughters very small, that your Petitioners son was drafted on the 27 day of July last that he is the only support of myself and two daughters very small, that this present year he is hired to one John Vardin I've three hundred pounds of Pork and four Barrels of Corn all which is for the support of myself and two daughters and should your Petitioner son be Obliged to March your Petitioner and two daughters must be left in great distress.

Therefore your Petitioner most humbly prays your Excellency and the Honourable Council will take her Case into their mature Consideration and Grant her such relief as they shall think fit. And your Petitioner as in duty Bound will Ever pray August 5

We the Subscribers do Certify that what is set forth above is strictly true.

Fran^{s} Ware
G. B. Causin
Walter Pye
Henry Hagan
John Sanders
Raphael Neale
Will: Tyre
Joseph Matthews
Belairs Posey

I the Subscriber do Certify that John Arms son of the within named Stacey Arms, Is hired to me this present year for which I am to give him three hundred pounds of Pork and four Barrels Corn, which is for the support of the within named Stacey Arms & her two daughters And that the said John Arms was hired to me the last year after the same manner on Purpose for the support of his mother and two Sisters John Vardin
Charles County Augt 5. 1781

[Joseph Dashiell, Snow hill, to Gov. Lee.] (Fav^{d} by Mr Robt Pitt) August 5

The Barer Mr Robt Pitts being Informed that There was a Complaint lodged with your Excellency & the Council against him and that I had a process against him Immediately Delivered him self to Geo. Corbin Esqr Lieut. of Accomack, and gave him a bond to apeare when Called for, sumtime last week he Came to me with an intention if I had any thing against him to answer to the Charge, and showd a very Grate willingness to Abide your Ex^{l} & Councells Determination in consequence of which I have taken his bond in the Penelty of One thousand pounds specie to appeare before you within Ten Days.

Upon my arival home from the Assembly I made all the Inquiry in my power to see if I Could find any body of Mr Pitts acquaintance that had Discovered any Change in his Conduct or any thing in him that showed an Inimical Disposition, to every Question I was answered in the Negative, and from what Mr Henry Dennes & Capt Walley has Inform^{d} me I am inclined to think that Mr Pitts Charactor has bin much Misrepresented, and I am of oppinion that if he was a person of Bad Character that he Could not have procured a Certificate signd by such a number of the most respectable Gen^{t} in the

August 5 County he lives among who is all the field officers &c I received from you a letter Informing me that you had appointed a Special Court for the Tryal of the prisoners on this Shore, but you did not mention when or whare it Satt, so that I Could not send Sturgis and the other prisoners. I rote you by way of Talbot Court house Informing you of this omition but have not Rec^{d} Your Answer to that letter, which Inclines me to think you have not Rec^{d} my letter & I am Sorry to Inform you that on this day week at night the prisoners Broke Goal and one of the Gratest Vilians Reyle Slocom, has made his Escape, the others have given themselves up and Can be sent to their tryal when ever we know when & whare the Court is to sitt to try them.— We have made up our select Militia and have Draughted our Militia for our Quota for the Two Battalions, and they now wate Your Excelencys Command, together with sum few three years men that the Last Draught have found as Substitutes, and them nor those Draught that was Ordered to march, when I was at Annapolis Can be sent forward for want of money to pay their Bounty &c. As money is so very scarce that we Cannot Colect the 4 ꝑ C^{t} to pay them

I have my hopes we shall get Slocom again as he Can't posably get to the Enemy, as our Barge has drove them Gentery entirely from our sound Capt Walley has taken two prizes but, what they have in I know not.

We have a very fine Barge Built at Salisbury that mounts Two four pounders & Rows with thirty two Oars, and I am afraid that Every thing is so very dear that the Subscribers will not be able to fitt her out as they Intended, and sum of them have Desired me to mention her to Your Excellency, and if you have not Contracted for all the Barges you want Wheather you would purchase this Barge, if you are Incline to treat for this Barge and will Drop me a few Lines I will Communicate it to the Subscribers and send you her Dementions Cost &c.

August 5 [Henry Dennis and Zedekiah Walley, Worcester County, to Gov. Lee.]

Col^{o} Joseph Dashiell informed us that he had a Warrant against a Mr Robert Pitt of Accomack County in the State of Virginia for carrying on a secret correspondence with the Enemy which he requested we would endeavour to apprehend with a number of Others, which he also had warrants for: Mr Pitt getting information of this by some means or other voluntarily delivered himself up to Col. Corbin Lieutenant of Accomack County and engaged his honour to appear when called on by any Officer of the State of Maryland for Tryall, We can assure you that we think Mr Pitt Innocent of the Charge as he has frequently been in company with us when on duty at alarms and shewed a sincere disposition to repell every hostile invasion expected from the Enemy.

[Job Garrettson Baltimore Town to Gov. Lee.] August 5

I have a small vessel called the flying Fish, to do my own private buisiness & which is now a trimming and repairing in order to get her ready to carry over two Gentlemen (that are now my prisoners) to the General Court on the Eastern shore the Session of which commences on Monday or Tuesday next, It seems David Poe has pressed her into public Service & Insisted she shou'd proceed in the order she is now in. I cannot procure any other boat on the present Occation my low & late Indisposition Incapacitates me from either riding on horseback or in a Carriage so that shou'd David Poe's pert conduct in regard to the Impress not meet with a Check by your Excellency & honourable Council granting me a release for my Vessel it will be utterly impossible for me to execute & discharge my Office, that is to say I cannot have the prisoners at the eastern shore, the small number of men she cou'd carry down the bay wou'd be very Insignificant piece of service to the Public

[Petition of William Thompson of Charles County, To his Excellency Thomas Sim Lee Esqr Governor and the Honourable Council] August 5

Humbly Sheweth That your Petitioner being at Sea in the month of April 1780 that on the 18th of the said month he being at the Masthead in a Gale of Wind, the Mast head broke and he fell on deck by which fall he received so much hurt that three of his ribs and his Breast Bone was broke, which renders him very unfit to go through any hard labour or the fatigues of marching although he was drafted in June last.

Therefore he prays that your Excellency and Honours will take his Case in to your mature Consideration and grant him such relief as you shall think fit. and your Petitioner as in duty Bound will ever pray.

These are to Certify that I verily believe the facts as Stated in the above petition to be Strictly true Fran^s Ware

William Thompson the above Petitioner has lived with me ever since his misfortune at Sea, he has had many Infectuous Swellings in his Groins out of which Pieces of his Rib have come They still continue to rise on the least Fatigue. He is now in so ill a state of Health that, I think he is not able to march ten miles

Hoskins Hanson

Charles County August 5th I hereby certify that William Thompson is in a very ill state of helth, and in my oppinion entirely unfit for Military duty. G. R. Brown

[Sam. Smith, Balt., to Gov. Lee.] August 5 Red Book No. 27 Letter 127

I took the Liberty to open your Excell^ys Letter to Gen. Buchanan & in Consequence have began to put this place in a posture of Defence. The Galley has now 100 Men at work on her. I flatter myself

August 5 Red Book No. 27 Letter 127 we can Man her, with Volunteers. If Gen. Smallwood will Come up Imm^y I will Engage for 800 Men from my Battalion. The Balt. Troop & Forrest Com^y a Body of Eighty Horse all well Mounted & equiped, the Militia will willingly Come in & Ere the Enemy comes up we might be sufficiently strong to risk an Action. I once before explaind to your Excell^y how defensible Nature has made this place, But there must be Regulars to form to, without them we shall like the Virginians let the Enemy ravage our Country without firing a Shott—without them the Townsmen will not think of defence, with them they will shew themselves Marylanders, your Excell^y agrees with me on a former occasion, That Anapolis was not defensible. This place which is according to Information their Destination, may be defended. We have no Commander, Gist lays ill in Bed

Money must be sent to the different departments. I beg that seven Hundred & fifty pounds may be sent to me ꝑ Bearer. Perhaps the present occasion may give it a Curr^y I Have expended nearly the whole I Have receivd. I Have order'd Waggons for the public Stores, has your Excell^y determin'd on a Spot to receive them, if you have pray let me know ꝑ return of the Bearer.

August 6 [Alex'r Crawford, Harford County, to Gov. Lee.]

This is to Inform your Excellency that Mr George Patterson, the Collector of Horses for Harford County, has resigned; and I am Appointed by the Lieutenant of said County. I have Accordingly with, very great Difficulty Collected Seven Light Horses—nine Waggon Horses, and one Waggon, I have also Varied appraisers in almost every Instance, yet find the prices of Horse to exceed all reason. Light Horses is Valued at Seventy, Eighty and ninety pounds, and one even to One Hundred and Thirty, Waggon Horses in proportion, upon these Considerations, I want your Excellencys Orders, whether or not I shall proceed to Collect the few remaining Horses at such prices, being Confident that if real Cash was paid for Horses they might be procured much Cheaper than for Certificates.

August 6 [Joseph Ford to Gov. Lee.]

I Enclose your Excellency An Account of the Expences in collecting and driving ninety five Steers to George Town, which If it should appear to be Right I hope your Honble Board will give An Order for Payment the Twenty Pounds that I Received when I was at Annapolis last being nearly exhausted in procuring Provisions and Necessaries to forward the Draughted men Returns of which shall be made up to the last of this month.

Mr Mills who had charge of the drove and drovers will have the Honor of delivering this and will Receive and forward the Ballance of the Account that is not due him to me immediately

[Samuel Gilpin, Cecil County to His Excellency Thomas S. Lee] August 6

I rec[d] yours this day requesting me to forward the Teams procured in order to remove the publick Stores &c. I suppose there must be a Mistake in the Direction of y[r] letter to me, as I had not the honour to be Appointed in the law for that purpose suppose it must have been Intended for Major Sam[l] Maffitt, and have took the liberty to Inform Accordingly.

[Lafayette, New Castle, to His Excellency, Governor Lee.] August 6 Brown Book No. 7 Letter 67

In my last dispatch to your Excellency I inclosed you a report from Commodore Baron of the Naval movement of the enemy, of which Baltimore was supposed to be the object. But instead of proceeding up the Bay the fleet stood into York river. The troops have been landed, and are fortifying on the Gloucester side. York town is made a place of arms. Lord Cornwallis is present and has with him his whole force except the garrison of Portsmouth.

From my intelligence it appears, that a principal part of this fleet was originally intended for New York but in consequence of the arrival of a vessel with letters from Gen: Clinton its sailings was suspended and the present arrangement of the whole succeeded.

Maryland being thus relieved I have to request your Excellency to give the most instant orders for the march of the levies. I need not mention to you the small force, we have to oppose to Lord Cornwallis's command; or what may be the consequences should we not be reinforced. That I may be inabled to regulate my motions upon certainties, I pray your Excellency to informe me, what number of levies you expect to have together in some given time; and when and where the select body of Militia is to rendezvous. I wish also to be acquainted with the progress made in the collection of cavalry and draught horses, and whether you have agreed upon their appropriation

[Lafayette, New Castle, to General Gist.] August 6 Brown Book No. 3 Letter 21 [Copy]

Since my last letter to you, through M[r] M[c] Henry inclosing Commodore Barrons report, the fleet spoken of entered York River, and landed their troops—they are fortifying on the Glocester side and have made a place of arms of York. Lord Cornwallis is present with his whole army, the Garrison of Portsmouth excepted.

It appears that a part of this fleet was originally intended for New York; but a dispatch arriving from General Clinton produced the Present arrangment. It is very essential to your Safety that we should be in force here—for this purpose I have ordered on all the levies with the utmost expedition. But I would beg leave to observe that Maryland might make some dispositions for her own defence. The enemy do not lose sight of Baltimore; and they may only wait

August 6 Brown Book No. 3 Letter 21 [Copy]

for a more favorable moment. You are on the spot, and acquainted with its strength, and of course know best what measures should be taken, In all Cases you will take care of the public stores.

August 6 [Copy]

[James McHenry New Castle to His Excy Govr Lee]

Maryland is relieved by the Enemy's establishing themselves in York river: But as this is a movement, not of choice there is no saying how long you will be safe. The measure there is good reason to believe is in consequence of advice of a superior naval power expected on this coast—So you see upon what you have to depend

Under these circumstances your military preparations are as necessary as ever. You will either want them for your own defence or to assist us. Believe one who is not apt to judge rashly; who has long since told you of what has been so near taking place, that relaxation may involve evils to the State of the most permanent nature. There was a time when we could blunder with impunity; but a blunder now may prove fatal. I need not be more explicit to your Excellency. You must be aware of the very critical situation of affairs both in America and Europe

You are filling up the Continental line; but something might also be attempted for internal security. The enemy do not lose sight of Baltimore; and this place may not be unworthy a little attention. I will give you my sentiments in a few words—If the works for the defence of the Harbour cannot be repaired, they should be levelled—If, at least, one galley and a boom cannot be provided, nothing of value should remain in the town. But if the works can be put in a state of Defence; a galley completed, and a boom established with a proper militia garrison, the place will be secure from any small detachment; and with an equal army in their neighbourhood, the enemy will not venture, to send a large one. At this moment measures of this nature would have the most happy effect—

With the sincerest regard & the most perfect respect and Attachment—

August 6 [copy]

[James McHenry, New Castle, to His Excy Govr Lee]

I had not time in the morning to send you what I now * enclose. As it is not a public letter I beg you will not suffer any Copies to be made—(see page 395)

By authentic accounts from Europe England has refused the mediation of Russia for a seperate peace between her and Holland. A restoration of what she had taken from the Dutch was the basis which she did not chuse to comply with Her idea was, to take the Dutch Islands, which were easy conquests, in the expectation that the French in order to recover them for the Dutch, would give up,

on a peace, an equal number of those English ones they have taken or might take. The Subject however, may be again considered at the general congress for a peace, which may meet about February next August 6 [copy]

* Copy of Gen[l] Greenes' Letter, which Gov[r] Lee requests the Honble Special Council will not allow any Copies to be made

[James McHenry to His Excy Gov[r] Lee] August 6 Afternoon [copy]

Our advices from the Southward come only down to the 17 July. The enemy had evacuated Ninety six. A Party of Col Lee's Legion had taken fifty of the enemy's Cavalry.

Gen[l] Greene was on the High Hills of Santee, and had detached Gen[l] Sumpter to attack the enemy's outposts near Charles town, with a view of forcing the whole body down into the lower County. If this failed, as soon as the Season, and his fforce would admit, he intends new operations to compel the enemy to leave the upper County

[Nath. Greene, High Hills of Santee, to President of Congress.] July 17 [copy]

I wrote you from Back River on the 23[d] of June since which we have been Constantly on the move. In the Afternoon of the same day I wrote you, I got intelligence that Lord Rawdon had Crossed the Saluda River and was advancing to attack us. I immediately put the Army in Motion having few or no Militia with me, and retired towards Charlotte, on which route I had previously ordered Provisions & forage to be provided. The Enemy pursued us two days; but as our sick Wounded & Stores had all been sent off before, they cou'd effect nothing: However it had a terrible effect upon the Country; the People were flying with their families in all directions. The Enemy advanced no further than the Enoree, and on the morning of the 26th begun to retire towards 96. We halted at the Cross roads at a point proper to file off to the Congarey or to return to the Seige of 96—I kept the Legion Cavalry close at their Heels—Lord Rawdon lay at 96 two days—and then with little more than half his force begun his March towards the Congaree leaving Col[l] Cruger at 96 with the Rest—from these appearances it was evident the Enemy meant to hold the Post of 96 and re-establish themselves on the Congaree at Friday's ferry—: to prevent which we left our baggage and invalids at Winnsborough, with orders to proceed to Camden and marched with all Possible expedition for the Congaree—But his Lordship arrived there two days before who on our appearance retired to Orangeburg with evident marks of precepitation, which discovered our movements were unexpected. Cap[t] Eggleston made a Stroke at his Horse which served to encrease his Confusion.

From the Perswassion that the Enemy wou'd attempt to establish themselves at the Congaree I had directed Gen. Sumpter & Marian to collect all the force they could & meet me at that place; but the

July 17 [copy] Enemys movements had given the Country such an Alarm that the few militia in our interest were tardy in turning out. I left the Army on the March for the Congaree and went ahead with the Cavalry to Collect our force to the best point for operating; We got intelligence by an intercepted letter that Col[l] Stewart with a reinforcement of 400 or 500 Men was convoying a quantity of Provision & Stores from Charles Town up to Lord Rawdon. We made a rapid March with the whole of our Cavalry, and a body of mounted Militia under Marian to intercept them; but unfortunately we were too late: However Col[l] Horrey took 3 of their Waggons loaded with a variety of Stores—

On the arrival of the Enemy on the Congaree we drew our force together at Beaver Creek, Gen[l] Pickens was detached towards 96 to watch the motions of the Enemy in that quarter—With the rest of our force being joined by Gen[ls] Sumter and Marian with about 1000 Men composed of State Troops and Militia, We began our march on the 11th to attack the Enemy at Orangeburg. We arrived before the Town on the 12th but found them so strong and advantageously Posted that we had little hopes of succeeding, as our Cavalry from the nature of the Ground coud not act to Advantage, nor coud we have improved a defeat as the Enemy had a safe retreat over the Edisto river and the only pass defended by a large British Goal equal to any Common redoubt, in which & several other buildings they were posted; Could we have got them out into the open Country we could have cut them to pieces in a few minutes; but secured as they were on one side by an empassable River, and covered on the other by the buildings, little was to be expected from our Attack. In this Situation we got intelligence of the evacuation of 96 & that Col[l] Cruger with the forces with him on their March in the forks of the Edisto for Orangeburg. There was no possibility of striking at him as the North Branch of the Edisto which lay between Us had no other pass for 30 Miles, either above or below—then that what the Enemy occupied. As the evacuation of 96 was one great motive of our manouvre, and as the Enemy were driven from the Congaree we thought it most likely by attacking their lower posts, at Monks Corner, & Dorchester (which are nothing but Churches occupied) we should prevent their return to the Congaree and oblige them to retire into the lower Country, for the Protection of those Posts. Gen[ls] Sumpter & Marian with the Legion Cavalry were detached upon this Service and began their March from the Neighbourhood of Orangeburg on the 13th at which time we began our March for this place to refresh the Army & form a Junction with Gen[l] Sumner and a body of Militia expected from Salisbury district. The day after we left Orangebourg the Enemy formed their junction & had not made any movements the day before yesterday.

[Matt. Ridley, Baltimore, to Gov. Lee] August 6

I had the honor of writing you a few lines from Good Bridge ꝑ Dr Goodwin. The Troop mostly got here on Saturday Evening last and bating fatigue in pretty good health

As I propose pursuing my Voyage as fast as possible I have sent the Bearer for the necessary papers. In mine ꝑ Dr Goodwin I mentioned the necessity of having the Act of Assembly & the private order as to the limitation in the price of Tobacco & flour. I beg there may not be omitted and that your Honorable Board will be so obliging as reduce every thing they can to writing. My intentions were to have personally waited upon but exclusive of tired Horses I find myself much indisposed from the fatigue I have gone thro'. I must therefore crave your indulgence on the occasion

I am informed the Assembly have given powers to your Board to grant Certificates bearing Inst for the claims against the State. The one you were pleased to grant me some time ago is deficient in that respect you not then thinking your powers sufficient for the purpose. I shall esteem it a favor if your Honorable Board will please send me one for the sum by the Bearer. The exact sum will be seen by the minutes. The reports of the Enemy coming up have obliged us to send away our Books and papers that I cannot tell the amount or get at the Certificate but I hereby make myself accountable for it.

I mentioned when last at Annapolis about the order I got for flour—that I could make no use of it & beg'd to be permited to return it, which was agreed to. I shall be glad of a Certificate for this sum also & promise to give up the order so soon as we can get at our papers. The Certificates to be separate & in the Name of Ridley & Pringle. The time the Monies were due from the State will be seen by the Agreements. I flater myself you will excuse the trouble I give—nothing but my indisposition & the confused situation our affairs are in would have induced me to it.

[H. Shryock, Frederick Town, to Gov. Lee.] August 6 Red Book No. 27 Letter 132

A few Days agoe I Rec' your Exelencys Leter But Was Not able to sent the Horses By this time as the Letter Came too Late to hand and this Moment Recd the Second and Must assure your Exelency that I am in the Graites Destress that I am Detained at this Court But Seeing the Necessity I Will Indaiver to Git Leave of the Court to Go home for a few Days if Posable and sent the Horses With all Posable Despach

[Pat Sim Smith, Calvert, to Gov. Lee] (ꝑr John Martin) August 6 Red Book No. 27 Letter 128

The Bearer hereof will deliver four Carriage Horses, Collected by me in this County under the late Act of Assembly, I have been

August 6
Red Book
No. 27
Letter 128

prevented from getting the other two by the Indisposition of my Family with the flux, this has also prevented my collecting the Beef Cattle required, and my being under the disorder prevents my now going after them However have a deputy out and expect to have a Quantity Collected this week ready to send up if the weather will permit—at present tis to violently Hot twill be Impossible to drive them, in the day especially, but you may be assured I will have them up as soon as possible

August 6
Red Book
No. 27
Letter 129

[George Stricker, Frederick Town, to Gov. Lee.]

I Received yours of the 4th at 2 o'Clock this afternoon Requesting me to forward Immediately all the Waggons and Teams Collected by me to Anapolis without Delay you are not unacquainted with the Delivery of all the Draft Horses and Giers which I had in my Possession Agreeable to your Letter Bearing Date the 24th of July and Complyed with on the 2d of August for which I have John Bullings the Quarter Masters Receipt. I have Only the Troop Horses Remaining in my hands to the Number of fourteen which are at Your Service when Called on

NB. I could have wished to have Been Impowered to seize a Number of waggons sufficient for your Releif which I would have got without Delay

August 7
Brown Book
No. 3
Letter 73

[M. Gist, Baltimore, to His Excellency Governor Lee.]

I had the honor, some months ago to lay before you, my Instructions from Major General Greene vesting me with Command in this State. The execution of the several duties required in those Instructions naturally subjected me to unavoidable expences, and was necessarily drawn from my private stores which is now, and has been for some time reduced to a few shillings.

To add to the mortification of the humiliating situation, I find myself largely indebted for the support of my Table, and am daily Dun'd by a Train of Butchers, Barbers, Taylors, Shoemakers and Merchants, who possitively refuse to receive (State Certificates) the only money your Military can command.

I have therefore taken the liberty of laying the enclos'd account of extra Expenditures before Your Excellency & Council and to request an order on the Treasurer for the amount in specie, or an equivalent sum in Continental State Money, to be advanced on Account of the United States, and to be settled and accounted for by me, with the Auditors of the Southern Army, or with General Greene who has engag'd to reimburse me.

The application of an Officers private money, to public uses, is attended with singular disadvantages, as every day lessens the prospect of rewards for his services, diminishes the honor of his station,

leaves his credit at stake and hazards his private character in the hands of dissatisfied Tradesmen. August 7 Brown Book No. 3 Letter 73

These considerations, (amongst other reasons) I flatter myself will induce the Hon[ble] The Council to comply with my request.

An Account of General Gists contingent Expences on Command in the State of Maryland ꝑ order of Major General Gates and confirmed by General Greene Brown Book No. 3 Letter 72

1780	October (as ꝑ Vouchers)	£607.. 3..9			
	November	D°	428..15..0		
	December	D°	607.. 8..9		
			1643.. 7..6	@ 75 for 1	Specie £21..18..11
1781	January	D°	1502..15..0	90	11..13..11
	March	D°	699.. 5..0	100	6..19..11
	April	D°	1286..17..6	120	10..14.. 5
			£5132..15..0		£51.. 6.. 4
	May	D°	136..12..8	State @ 6 for 1	22..15.. 5
	June	D°	" " " "		36.. 0.. 8
					£110.. 2.. 5

E. E. M. Gist

[Tho[s] Price, P. Thomas, Fred[k] Town to The Honorable Governor & Council] August 7 Blue Book No. 4 Letter 70

M[r] Malackiah Bonham has a desire to go into the Service of his Country, provided he can obtain an Ensigns Commission. We recommend him to your Excellency and Honors as one deserving & have not any doubt but that he will make a good Officer

[Dan of St. Thos Jenifer and Dan'l Carroll, Philadelphia to Gov. Lee.] August 7 Red Book No. 5 Letter 102

The Board of War assures us that the remaining 500 Stand of Arms & the two Field peices will be sent down immediately, probably the waggons will leave this place to morrow we applied to the Board to send a guard, but find it cannot be done. Instructions will be given to the Conductor to convey the arms &[ca] down by the safest rout, we take the Liberty of suggesting to you whether it wou'd not be proper to direct a guard to meet the waggons on the road

P. S. The intelligence of the arrival of some troops at New York given in our last letter is contradicted

August 8
Red Book
No. 18
Letter 124

[John Neill, Fr^{dk} To M^{iss} John Parks merch^{t} Baltimore.]

Madam Please to let me know by the post how the New Money goes, a Commitee is apointed here to forge it Equel to Gold the leading men here are determined to burn your town if you do not take it the Melitia is here non to go to save you but if you have Damn'd the monney you may expect to be Dam'd your selves by them Coll Price Chearman of the Commitee & severall of the tories Has been tried and is to be Confined some for six months and others twelve and pay a fine of 3 or £400. Give Mr Parks [illegible] Joy the post tells me that Mr Stull will get him his liberty I Cannot find a waggon without paying too much but if I Cannot send it soon I will keep it to my [self] and pay you for it.

August 8 [William Bayly, Jr., George Town, to His Excellency Thomas Sim Lee Esqr] (fav^{d} by Mr Allen)

Mr Archibald Allen of this County is Draughted he has to my knowledge had very Considerable Losses, and unless your Excellency & the Council will Excuse him from Marching I am told that his family will be greatly Distress'd.

August 8 [John Smith Brookes, Piscattaway, to the Governor and Council.] (By Mr Williams)

Your letter of the 3rd inst alarm'd me very much, as I had put quite a different construction on the intention of your several favours dated the 26 & 27 Ult. and considered their substance, as a positive direction, not to send forward any more cattle; but let them be put in good pastures, in which case I considered none so proper as their own walks and therefore did not proceed to the collection—in your letter of the 27th you desire me not to send any more cattle forward untill your further orders—and in that of the 3rd of August you charge me with inattention for not sending them forward—this is an error I think in which I am not blameable.

I am now very busy in the Collection and have been so sence the moment I received yours of the 3rd I hope to set of from this tomorrow with about 40 head and shall go on to the Collection of 40 more the difficulty in Collecting Cattle is very great and requires more time then could be immagined, especially in lands that are thickly wooded. I think it would be well for the Council to remove the fish that are at this place. I should immagine they would be very acceptable to the troops, and here there is danger of their Spoiling.

August 8 [Frederick Calhous to Gov. Lee.]

I Have been brought up to the Trade of a Tanner and think myself Master of the Business and can dress Skins and Leather equal to any one. I intend to erect a compleat Tannery at the head of

Severn, and will with Industry and Integrity do any Work entrusted to my care. If the State will be pleased to employ me, or to give me part of their work, I will undertake to manufacture the Hides of the Public Cattle into Leather, on the same Terms as allowed to others (which I understand is one half) and if required, I can give undoubted Security for my skill and Integrity. If the state incline to sell the Hides, I will buy them, and give Security for payment. My Tannery will be secure from the Enemy, and I hope the public will give me and all other Manufacturers Encouragement August 8

[Dan'l Carroll, Philadelphia to Gov. Lee] August 8 Brown Book No. 5 Letter 83

We do ourselves the honor to inclose a Letter from the Com^py^ of Military Stores. The Board of War informs that the Arms were ordered to go by Lancaster & from thence the nearest road to Baltimore—this we mention that you may know where to meet them it is thought proper to send a guard.

N. B. Mr Jenefer not present.

[James Hodgdon, C. G. M. S. Philadelphia to Daniel Carroll] August 8 Brown Book No. 5 Letter 82

Inclosed you have an invoice of the Stores, forwarded yesterday, to your State—the remainder, with the two field Peices compleat and two hundred rounds of Ammunition, are ready, and I expect, will go on this day.

Invoice of Muskets &c. forwarded to Thos. S. Lee Esqr Governor of the State of Maryland Brown Book No. 5 Letter 84

Phil^a^ Augt 7th 1781

407 Muskets & Bayonetts
407 Cartridge Boxes } dld John Bryan Waggoner.

[Samuel Hodgdon, Com^y^ Genl Mil Stores Philadelphia, to Thomas Sim Lee, Esqr.] August 8

Inclosed I send, an Invoice of Cannon Muskets and Bayonets, Cartouch boxes, Ammunition, and implements, forwarded, to the State of Maryland agreeable to an Order received from the honorable Board of War.

To prevent a possibility of loss of time by their lying, and not being known when they come to hand, I have address'd the whole to you, in confidence, that you would be so obliging as to direct, the proper person, to receive, and receipt for them.

August 8 [Inclosure]

Invoice of Cannon &ca forwarded for the use of the State of Maryland

Philada Augt 8. 1781.

2 ps Brass Cannon 4 pds with Carriages, Limbers & Ammunition Boxes complete.

2 Trail Spikes		p Jno Bryan
2 Rammers & Spunges	4 pds.	David Davis
2 Ladles	do	Jno Fulton
2 Wadhooks	do	Henry Magill
84 Round Shot fix'd	do	Teamsters
24 Cannister do do	do	
495 Muskets & Bayonets		
495 Cart. Boxes		

August 9 [Richd Barnes, Leod Town, to His Excellency Thos Sim Lee Esqr]

Mr James Thomas an Officer in the Militia of the Coty that has behaved himself in that station very well, was taken by the Enemys Barges going to the head of the Bay and carryed to the Enemy at Portsmouth. His Father Mr Wm Thomas is very desirous of supplying him with some money, which he is much in want of, and has applyed to me, to request your kind assistance to give him such liberty as will enable him to do it. Which I shuld be oblidged to you to do, as the young Gentlemans Father, and Family have conducted themselves as Friends to our cause.

August 9 [James Murray, Thos Jones, Robert Ewing, Cambridge, to the Governor and Council]

This will be handed you by Capt Matthias Travers who has the Command of a Barge built by some Gentlemen of our County at their own private Expence, he waits upon your Excellency & Honors for a proper Commission to authorize her to cruize against the Enemy or any others who might be legally captured. Least the Publick should be induced to think the Promoters of this Barge have acted from sinister motives, and to serve their own Ends by Captures & Reprizals, we can assure your Excelly & Honors we have no such design. Equally indifferent to Censure or Applause, we have steered that Course where the Non nobis—but Pro Patria, calls.

Whatever is made by the Barge (if they should be so fortunate as to get any thing) we have agreed should be shared amongst those brave Fellows who are venturing to revenge the many Injuries their Fathers, Brothers or other relatives have lately suffered.

We are convinc'd that the laudable Motive of endeavouring to bring to condign Punishment the Perpetrators of the many late villainous and horrid Barbarities weighs more in the Breasts of these

Officers and men than any expectation of gain, as most of them live round where these Deeds were done; and whose Hearts of Course must pant for sweet Revenge. August 9

We will say nothing to y^{r} Excell^{y} & Hon^{rs} of our Difficulty in supplying many little things that we stand in need of to compleat her for such an Expedition, such things not being to be had in this Country Place.

We hope the Valour of the Crew will be the Furor armaministrat, If they are not to be had.

[Wm. Leigh, Charles Co^{ty} to His Excel^{cy} Thom^{s} Simm Lee Esqr] August 9

Mr Frank Leeke in consequence of not giting the money has given up the ord^{r} in behalf of Mr Jonath^{n} Hudson or the Collect^{rs} of assesm^{ts} in his County, to me, the Coll^{tors} of this Co^{ty} say the ord^{r} dos not Extend to them only to the Prince Georg^{s} Co^{ty} receiv^{rs} otherwise they wou'd pay it immediately. hope you'l direct what must be done and prevent any trouble and Expence coming to Annapolis to you.

[Thomas Sprigg, Washington County, to the Council.] (Fav^{d} by Mr. Foster) August 9 Red Book No. 27 Letter 130

I rec^{d} Your Hon^{rs} Letter of the 4th Ins^{t} the select Militia will March on Saturday next, upwards of 100 well equipt have Inclos'd rec^{ts} for the Cloathing sent up by Genl Smallwood and a List with the Inlistments of the recruits and draughts sent down by the serg^{t} that came up with the Cloathing—the rec^{ts} and draughts procur'd under the Act of last Session shall be forwarded as soon as Possible. As the Bearer has taken the Horses Seized in this Co^{ty} and will return Immed^{y} shall Esteam it a fav^{r} to be inform'd of the Movements of the Enemy &c

[Ignatius Wheeler, Jr, Harford County to His Excellency Thos Sim Lee] August 9

I rec^{d} yours of the 4th Ins^{t} on the 8th wherein you Desire me to send Toward to Annapolis the Waggons and Teams Collected by me. This is to inform you I have no Teams Belonging to the Public nither have I had Orders to procure any.

[And. Buchanan, Bal. County to His Excell^{y} Thos Sim Lee, Esqr] August 10

I have the Pleasure to inform you that the Militia of this County hath turn out with great Alacrity and I believe wou'd have made resistance had the Enemy Dared to Approach us, but to my great mortification when we came to Equip them for Battle we cou'd not arm more than about 1500 besides haveing no Camp Equipage, their has been a few Iron Potts Purchased for their use, their is now wanting at least 100 Cartridge Boxes 5 or 6 hund^{d} Arms, Kettles, Bucketts, tents and in short almost every necessary to enable us to

August 10 cut any figure shou'd the Enemy Pay us a Visit. Pray let us bee Provided and if we dont make a Proper use of them we ought to be slaves. I dont know what to do with the Classes suspended under the Act to procure troops I am afraid I cant execute for the 41 instruct me upon this head

N B. No Volenteer select Militia in this County accept a Company of about 35 men who are good for little the others are drafted and are so dispersed and the drafted Persons both Whig and tory so that I shall be able to do little with them.

August 10
Brown Book
No. 5
Letter 32

[Ja^s Calhoun, Baltimore to His Excellency Thomas S. Lee Esqr]
(p^r Wm Barney.)

The bearer of this William Barney is Son to a very industrious reputable Woman of this neighbourhood who has several small Children to support by her own industry and that of this Youth as her Husband and eldest son is already in the Army and has been for several years past.

In the late draft it fell to this young Mans Lot to serve until the 10th of Decr next which will in a great measure break up his poor Mother & small family. If your Excellency could consistantly dispense with his Service and procure his Discharge it would be a humane good Act

August 10
Brown Book
No. 5
Letter 33

[The Petition of Sarah Barney of Baltimore County, To His Excellency Thomas Sim Lee Esqr]

Humbly Sheweth That your Petitioner's Son has been Draughted under a Law Passed last Session of Assembly to serve in the Continental Army till the Tenth day of December next. By which your Petitioner and family must expect to be reduced to the greatest extreamity of want, as he (with what little your Petitioner can do) is the only Support of your Petitioner and Six small Children, who entirely depend on the Labour of his hands for a Maintainance and what still adds more to your Distressed Petitioners uneasiness of mind is that your Petitioners son which is Draughted has never had the Small Pox should he be taken with that distemper at this Season of the year as its more than Probable he may as its so brief at present, it may Possibly put an end to his existance. On which depends in a great measure your Petitioner's future happiness & support in this world.

Your Petitioner's Husband and oldest son has been in the American Service this six years past and Still Continue in the service for they are Enlisted during the War

Your Petitioner Therefore most Humbly Prays your Excellency would take her Case into Consideration and give her such redress as your Excellency may think meet, And your Petitioner as in Duty bound will ever Pray

Sarah Barney

We the Subscribers do believe and are Assured that the Facts stated in the within Petition are True, And Pray your Excellency to give your Petitioner such Redress as she realy merits. August 10 Brown Book No. 5 Letter 33

M. Gist
Wm Goodwin
Jno Dorsey
Stephen Steward Junr
Dan Bowly
John Moale
Sam Smith
Nichs Ruxton Moore
Jas Calhoun

[Colo Henry Shryock, Fredk Town, to Gov. Lee.] (pr Mr. Luke Foster) August 10 Red Book No. 27 Letter 131

Agreable to your Exelency Request I have sent By Mr Luke Foster one Waggon and twenty one horses Which is the Number I was Requested to furnish With their Gears I am sory it Was Not In My Power to sent them sooner. My Being from home at the time I Recd your Excelencys Letters Caus'd the Delay. But hope they Will yet Com in Good time Being oblidged to attend Court in This Town Puted out of My Power to setle My act at this time But as soon as I am Discharged here I Will Setle the same and Bring or Transmit it the Bearer Mr Foster Will stand in Nead of a Small Sum of Money Wich I hope your Excelency Will pleas to Grant him to Defray the Necessary Charges Conducting the Horses to Anapolis.

[W. Smallwood to Gov. Lee.] August 10 Brown Book No. 2 Letter 37

Doctor Armstrongs Waiter being a Soldier of the Delaware Regt drawn from the 2d Maryland Brigade, is destitute of Cloathing if he can be supplied with a suit of Cloaths from the State Store and it is consistent to charge them to the Continent shall be glad he coud obtain an Order that he may be supplied

[Don'l Yeates D. Q. M., Head of Elk, to the Hon Council.] August 10

The circumstance of the Public posts in this State is so far exhausted of means of business and provisions to subsist troops, the view of disorder on the Passage of troops or stores, when no regular Assistance can be given, prompts me to solicit your consideration and Aid on the circumstance.

There is a material Want of some horses, Waggons and forage, Aided by you with a few of each of those Articles even on a Credit lent to the states, I view as very Interesting to the peace and good order of the inhabitants as it seldom fails of distress to individuals, when property is exacted by Soldier'y at their Elections—which in-

August 10 evitably must be the case on the passage of detached Parties if the Posts are Abolished before some other regular system can take place I can't find resources on any application I have made, and know of no other appeal in the present State of Public Affairs, but to your intermediate Aid, if it is Possible to do any thing the situation Claim your Assistance

August 10
Brown Book
No. 7
Letter 64

[Lafayette, Camp Pamonkey, to Gov. Lee.]

The Enemy are fortifying York, in such a manner as if it was their intention to make it a place of Arms. I beg leave as to mention that the State of the Treasury makes your levies of great consequence as a reinforcement. I hope they have managed, but in case they have not, let me request that they may proceed to Fredericksburg and there wait for their orders. This is an intermediary post.

I begin to fear when we can Augment our army to a number to give us consideration, that we shall not be able to supply it from this State. To obviate this evil and to enable me to continue the force which I may call ours I must intreat your Excellency to informe me what provisions I am to expect from Maryland I mean both kind and Quantity.

You will see by the inclosed letter to Colonel Temple (which I beg you to forward,) that He is ordered to Frederick [damaged] with his dismounted Dragoons to wait for one hundred Horses from your Excellency of those collected for such Service, I need not add on this head as you must be fully sensible [damaged] little can be done without cavalry.

General Greene writes me to Complete Col° Moylons Regiment from the Mayriland Horses

I know not for my part How we are to be furnished accoutrements for the Horses unless individual States will give us their help. If our Excellency has any under your orders or could find means to provide them it would be a most essential piece of Service

August 11

[Jos^a Beall, Lieu^t P^s G^s C^ty Upper Malbro, to His Excell^y Thomas Simm Lee Esqr]

Lieu^t Boone who has Charge of Drafts from this County will Deliver you this together with a return of my Proceedings in that business, By Which you will find there are many Excues^d and my reasons for so doing, several have not yet appeared others taken sick since the draft and not able to appear, those who are I shall Endeavour to collect and forward to Annapolis Unless they have very good reasons for being Excused,

Was it Possible that I could be fully & perfectly Acquainted with Every particular mans circumstance & State of health in the County, I could Execute this busness with mutch more justice to the publick

and mutch More Ease to myself, But the Erronious returns made by the Militia Officers occasions mutch Confusion in it. I reced Yours of the 8th instant, and have given the Necessary Orders for countermandg the March of the Select Militia. August 11

[Richd Burgess, Thos Clarke, Leond Hollyday, Upper Marlbro, to His Excellency Thos Sim Lee Esqr] August 11

At the Unanimous request of a number of Gentlemen of Prince Georges County, who Actuated by a principle of liberty have Voluntarily embodied themselves in a Troop of Horse under the Law, for raising a Troop of Horse in each County, We request your Excellency to confirm the same, and Issue commissions according to the following appointmentees, Viz. Thomas Harwood Esqr Capt, Robert Bowie Esqr Lieut, John Hawkins Esqr Cornett.

[Jas. Calhoun, Baltimore, to the Governor and Council.] (Hond by J. T. Chase Esq.) August 11

The Flour sent to Mr Chrisall was got out of the Continental Store here and was in part of the 100 Bbles ordered by your Board on the 6th Inst I am sorry to find so much of it unfit for use as upon enquiry the Store keeper informs me the greatest part of it was received about two or three weeks ago in good order therefore its probable there is more of it in the same condition, the remainder of the flour shall be sent through the same channel as soon as possible & hope will turn out better.

If your hoñble Board would write to the Comy Genl of Issues at Philadelphia & have an Issuing Commissary appointed at Annapolis and another at George Town it would ease you of any trouble on that head in future as those Commissaries would then apply to the Continental Stores for all the Provisions that was necessary to Issue at those Posts.

During the late alarm I purchased near thirty Bbles of Pork which served to issue to the Militia before any Cattle could be collected and gave them very general satisfaction. I must request you will please send me 4 or £500 to pay for this Pork and some other matters I owe and must also request that your honble Board will please point out some method of procuring at least 100 head of Cattle to have always in the neighbourhood of this place in case of another alarm it is impossible to collect them in time on such an occasion.

[Joseph Dashiell, Worcester County, to Gov. Lee.] (To the Care of Mr Polk) August 11

Your Several favours relitive to marching the Draughts & Recruits &c Came to hand the 9th Inst and your Mr. Brices, by Mr Pitts was handed me yesterday In consequence of which I have Ordered all

August 11 the Draughts Substitutes & recruits &c to meat at Snow hill on Tuesday next, and as many as I Can git mony to pay I shall Indeavour to send forward, but I am afraid that the want of mony will prevent their Marching so soon as you wish, for the Sheriff ashures me, that he cannot colect the 4/ Tax, he has Executed many of the first People, and Cannot sell the goods he has Seazed for any thing, Under these Circumstances, I submit it to your Excellency wheather mony of the Last Emnition had not better be sent down for the purpose of forwarding these men, it Can be replaced as soon as the 4/ is Collected

I shall carefully examine all those that have excuses, and if they Come within the Law & your Directions I shall Discharge them, as soon as they are Convened and the number of the Effected ascertained I shall make a return in the Intrem I hope to Receive your Instructions whare they are to march, to Cross the Bay, I sopose their will be one hundred & fifty that will march from this County & Somerset, if those men are to pass at Kent Island the Expence will be Very heavy for fearige &c Besides the Distance to March, I should be Glad sum proper officer could Receive them heare with proper powers to Draw provisions, Imploy Baggage wagons &c as that number of men, Cannot Be marched so far without such Conveniency, or a sufficient sum of money to Bare their Expences, we have got all our prisoners again but Slocum & Cox, they I Believe have Joined the Enemy, as soon as the Judges of the Special Court Sits I shall send them forward to their orders

N B As soon as I can see the managers of the Barge I will Communicate your Letter to them I am Shure she will answer, as I Belive she is one of the finest Barges in the Bay.

August 11 Red Book No. 30 Letter 66 [H. Hollingsworth, Head of Elk, to His Excellency, Thomas Sim Lee, Esqr, in Council.] (favd ꝑ Mr. Concoa)

And Please your Excell^y & Honours Inclosed is a return of Provisions rec^d in the months of June and July, the quantity received in June being very small and my being extreamly throng prevented my making a return of it untill now. As I have had this flour to freight up Inspect to waggon to the Mills and get the most of it bolted over again and in many Instances to get new Casks to Cooper nail &c^a to waggon the bolted flour to Christeen, on account of your order to Mr Sam Smith, and am sorry to inform you that after all this expence and trouble I have not got one Barrel (that is bolted over again to pass the Philad^a Inspection) and of course Mr Smith has had very little assistance from me, though I have done every thing in my power to serve him, the Flour I wrote you in my last was bad, am sorry it is since so fully verifyed, I had a hundred and odd Barrels bolted that came from the Eastern shore, (or at least such parts of it as appeared fittest for its bolting) and sent to Philad^a as ꝑ Mr Smiths order, the whole was condemned, I thought it best to let

Return of Provisions &c[a] received at the Head of Elk by Col[o] Henry Hollingsworth from the 1st of June to the 31st of July 1781. Inclusive

Dates 1781	Of whom received	By whom received	Barrels							Pounds			Bushells
			Flour	N[t] W[t]	Pork	N[t] W[t]	Lard	Beef	N[t] W[t]	Bacon	Beef	Pork	Wheat
June 5	Richard Dallam Com[y] Harford Co[ty]	Thomas Mall both	45	damaged	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....
6	Ditto Ditto Ditto	Henry Murphy both	33										
15	James Sullivan Com. Dorchester Co[ty]	James Mackey	76	....	17	3679	4	1	176	....	....	....	....
22	John Voorhees Com. Kent County	Rich[d] Barrington	149	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....
"	Charles Blake C. Queen Anne Co[ty]	William Howell	....	....	79	....	1	....	....	....	....	....	....
"	John Voorhees C. Kent County	Ditto	30	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....
July 2	Baruch Williams C, Cecil Co[ty]	Ditto	58	12598	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....
" "	John Voorhees Com[y] Kent Co[ty]	Ditto	12	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....
" "	Ditto Ditto	Nathaniel M[c]Clellan Omit[d]	9	....	10	....	....	4	....	....	....	....	....
"	Baruch Williams	Ditto Omit[d]	7	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....
9	John Voorhees	James Davis	76⅔	....	....	....	¼	....	....	....	41½	....	234½
20	Baruch Williams	Andrew Miller	21	34214	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....
"	Richard Dallam	Cornelius Jewell	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	742 damaged
25	John Voorhees	James M[c]Gowen	134	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	86
		Total	650⅔	....	106	....	1½	5	....	....	41½	....	1062½

Red Book
No. 30
Letter 65

August 11
Red Book
No. 30
Letter 66

it transpire as little as possible, and wrote my brother to consult our Delegates in Congress, and if agreeable to them, to deliver it over to the Continental Commissary, that the State might get Credit for it, which was accordingly done, since which I have attempted at bolting some from Harford County, but tis all sour, I then bolted about two hundred Barrels to fill an order drawn by Mr Smith in favour of Mrs Smith and Mathews, and Mr Mathews and myself went to the Mills and examined it and thought it would do, it was condem'd also as this last parcel was condem'd at Christian Bridge, I have applyed to Col^o Yeates to receive it, so that the State may have Credit for it, which he agrees to do, I have sent to corsica to Mr Charles Blake for a quantity of flour that is there made at Col^o Hemslys Mills, when it comes if there is a prospect of bolting it over to advantage, shall attempt it, but fear it wont do, as there has been out of 235 Barrels of flour sent here this week by Colo Dellam 153 is rejected by Col^o Yeates, as sour and musty, nor have I been able to make one Barrel bare Inspection (so as to serve Mr Smith) except sixty odd Barrels made at my own Mill out of some wheat had of Charles Blake of Queen Anns County, which wheat though not very good, yet it was ground and bolted with intent to make good flour of from the begining which was not the case with the other. I am now bolting of near two hundred B^bles which came from Mr Voorhees which I would feign hope will do, but should it not do for inspection, yet the mixing it with fresh bran laying to cool, and bolting over again sweetens and preserves it much, so that the Labour is not intirely lost, if my necessitys for money were great when I wrote you last, they are much more so now. Mr Concoa is a Safe opportunity and I lay under great difficulties for want of it

August 11
Red Book
No. 27
Letter 133

[Sam. Smith, Balt., to Gov. Lee.]

I have your Excell^ys Orders of yesterday this Moment. The Waggons & Tents were met by the Bearer, one waggon excepted in which I was disappointed for want of Hard Cash, But flatter myself those sent will be fully sufficient for the Troops which are under marching orders. The Chirurgical Instruments, Rum & remains of Clothing must have arriv'd at Anapolis last Night. They were forwarded by the Packett, together with 500 Stocks, The New Money set its Sun in three Days, I scarce think Whetstone point's being partly sold for it Could raise it again. Nothing Else will, I am Certain. Tobacco has become a perfect Drug in Philad^a It will not fetch 20/ now in Cash & not one H^hd forwarded for the State is yet sold. This is not peculiar, private Tobacco is in the same State, However I shall wait on you on Monday & on my return make use of my Exertions. New Money will do Nothing. Tobacco may but at Considerable Disadvantage,

[Jn° D. Thompson, Cecil County to His Excellency Thomas Sim Lee, Esqr] (p^r Mr. Concoa) August 11

There are something above fifty men enrolled in this county to serve untill the 10th day of December next, the most of them since the time limited by law, that is the 16th July last—it is the opinion of many gentlemen here and some of the delegates, that those who have enrolled themselves voluntarily, may recieve the twenty dollars bounty, Cloaths &c^a under this idea we have Procured the above men, and indeed I doubt not, but it has been Promised them, in a very few days the whole will be compleated, the Principal Part of which are young men Americans born, and in whom the country can put confidence, if these young men receive their bounty and cloaths. I am all but certain, that there are but very few of them but what will continue in the Service; I must therefore Pray your Excellency will render us, every assistance in your Power, and send me up as much money as will answer this purpose, a negative to this requisition will throw us into confusion, and those already enrolled will move with reluctance, and I fear Put a stop to others enrolling. Draughted men, who are forced out will render very little assistance or rather do no good. I have yet remaining ten or twelve men of the troops raised agreeable to the Act to Procure recruits, who will be sent forward as soon as the Sheriff can collect money for them, he has met with great difficulty in levying the four shillings, by the advice of some People in this county, and the State has suffered in consequence—

You wrote me of the 23^d ultimo and 3^d instant to march the recruits &c to Annapolis, I have no officer to give the command to and to send them by land, so great a distance, without an Officer (I think) will be attended with bad consequences, the next week I shall be able to send off between sixty and seventy which I mean to do by water unless you give me orders to the contrary.

Among those men I have two men who were brought before me as Vagrants and since have enlisted, these men are entitled to £22..10 each, will you please to supply me with this sum also? I can assure you that the Subscription and Association for the credit of the £200,000 has been Signed by Several in this county—I wrote you sometime ago for commissions for Samuel Hutchison Capt. 18th Batt^n Noble Veazey 1st Lieut. Noble Beedle 2^d Lieut. and William Price ensign, I will thank you for these Commissions, in a Commission to Capt. Scott of the 2^d or Elk Battalion of this county a mistake is made by inserting William instead of John, with your consent I will alter the name from William to John—

Please to send me Commissions for Barruch Williams as Lieu^t Col° of the 30th Batt. and James Maxwell Major. Mr Concoa I have

August 11 sent to Annapolis on purpose with This Letter, and I shall be Exceedingly happy to receive your answer as soon as Possible, as I mean to Send The Troops down as soon as he returns.

August 12 [Wm. Baker, Potomack, to Gov. Lee.] (Fav^{d} by Mr. Nich^{s} Waters)

Give me leave to trouble your Excellency with the Circumstances of a draught in the 4th Class of the Middle Battalion of This County wherein the Bearer my apprentice thinks Himself injur'd and begs permission to have your determination. In this Class were Twenty men and when the drawing was finish'd it appear'd that Willm Fenley and a Mr Club were the two who were to go; Col. Beall was then told that Fenley had gone on Board a Vessel at Alexandria upon which He had the Class drawn over again when the Bearer and a Mr Vermillion were the two drawn and Chose your Petitioner as the Person who was to serve. It must be observ'd that Col Beall was told before the draught that Fenley and many other young Fellows who had been Class'd had gone out of the way (and it can be prov'd merely to avoid the draught) yet He did not alter the Classes. Now as Club was fairly Ballotted surely Fenleys secreting Himself did not annul his draught, or if it was necessary to have two the remaining part of the Class were not bound to find more than one because Clubs Election was undoubted, yet Col. Beall Chose to have a second draught when Club got entirely clear. That the above is a true state can be attested by many reputable men. If your Excellency thinks He is properly draughted He is willing to render as much service as His constitution will admit I must However beg leave to declare that He is a very weakly youth, of a very delicate Frame and has been bro^{t} up in the tenderest manner. He has liv'd with me for near Two years and I find Him so promising a youth in every respect, that it gives me pain not only on Acc^{t} of his risqueing his life, but that his Studies should be broke in upon at so critical a period. He has by his diligence and application made such a rapid progress in his Profession, that if He should go at all I am well convinc'd He would render very essential services in the Physical department; He has for that purpose procur'd a recommendatory Letter from Doct^{r} Brown the late Physician General. If there should be a Vacancy for a Mate I could wish Him to be examin'd by some Gentleman in Annapolis; I flatter myself He will be found perfectly qualified for that duty, and I must in Justice to his merits say every thing for his Virtue, and diligence. I have only to add that neither his Circumstances or mine will admit of paying the high demands of Substitutes or you would not have been troubled with so long a Letter

[Erasmus Gantt, P. Georges County, to His Excellency Thos. Sim Lee Esqr.] August 12

In Consequence of an Appointment from Your Excellency, to a Cornelcy in the Troop of Horse, which was directed for the Defence of Somerset & Worcester Counties, I was reduced to the Expenditure of a Considerable sum of money for Horses, and other necessary Equipments; trusting to your Excellency that in Case the plan of raising the Troops directed was not adopted, I should meet your attention in some other appointment. The plan upon which the Reg^{t} of Horse are to be raised by the State, renders a post in it far more reputable, than the Troop heretofore directed to be raised, therefore shall conceive myself honoured in your Influence towards such an appointment

[John Parks, Baltimore, to His Exc^{y} Thomas Sim Lee, Esquire] August 12 Red Book No. 18 Letter 131

I had the Honour some Time since of presenting you a Memorial, which beg leave to refer your Excellency to, representing the Proceedings of Coll^{o} Samuell Smith, in Consequence of a Suspicion alledged against me, for an intention, to cooperate with the Insurgents of Frederick, of my being concerned in that truly diabolical conspiracy of mentioning my Confinement since the 24th June last.

May I now presume to Intimate that from the long durance since my Confinement, the number already tryed, and your Excellency being on the Spott, you must be fully Convinced that I never was Concerned, in any measure so derogatory to the Wellfare, the happiness, and Subversion of the Liberties of my Country, and so Contrary to my own, and Families true Interest from which Instigation, myself, Wife, and a number of small Children have so pointedly suffered; being now for seven Weeks intirely deprived of any Intercourse therewith, leaves them Liable to every Casüality, that is incident to a helpless and distressed Family.

I would not have again Presumed to intrude or mention the Misfortune of an Individual at this Criterion, when the Public concern must have your Attention, had not the long Time of my Imprisonment, the Distresses of my Family, and Every Gentleman of this Place Convinced of my Innocence, induced me thereto.

I need not Comment, for under Every Distress I have this Consolation, that I suffer only from a mistaken Zeal of my Country, induced by the Calumny, and Malicious Designs of some secret Enemy, who thought this a proper opportunity most Effectively to injure me.

May it Please your Excellency I have always been willing, done, and am Still willing to Conform and acquiess in every Law, Custom or Institution that may be proposed for the Benefit of my Country, and under it every service that may be required, or in my Power

August 12
Red Book
No. 18
Letter 131

and Ability to do, and during my Residence in this Place (now near three Years) I have always behaved as a Peaceable Subject; thus why shou'd I indiscriminately be devested from its Protection.

I beg Pardon for my intruding and hope your Excellency will agreable to your known Characteristick of Justice, and Humanity, draw your Attention to a suffering Individual; and Liberate him, who will always revere your Institutions, with Every sentiment, that you yourself cou'd wish.

August 12
Brown Book
No. 3
Letter 20

[M. Gist, Baltimore, to Gov. Lee.]

I have the honor to enclose your Excellency a letter from Mr Carroll as also a copy of a letter from the Marquis, for your information requesting the movements of the Enemy Colonel Wood informs, that the Board of War apprehend the British prisoners at York and Lancaster to be an object of their attention, and that he has establishd a chain of Express's to this place for the purpose of facilitating such intelligence of their movements as may tend to effect the security of those posts

I find myself under the necessity of repeating my Application to The Honble The Council for their Orders to the Commissary General at this post to provide me with Spirit for my Table this article, by a late regulation constitutes part of a Ration, of which I have been depriv'd for several months, and it gives me pain to think that in other Instances I have either been forgot, or neglected.

August 13

[John Smith Brookes, Upper Marlbro, to the Council.]

The Bearer Mr Scott has 30 head of Cattle which he is directed to deliver to Mr Crisall agreeable to your orders, the numberless difficulties attending the collection and driving cattle rendered it out of my Power to get them sent forward sooner—indeed had I not have misunderstood your orders of the 26 & 27 ulto they would have been up two days agoe from those letters I conceived the Cattle were not to be sent forward. The Gentlemen from whom I collect cattle think themselves under the law entitled to the money and have requested me to make application I therefore beg you will please to favour me with your answer.

You may depend on my exertions to have the full quantity you desire collected & sent forward. I hope in a few days to move another parcel.

August 13
Red Book
No. 18
Letter 125

[Alex'r McFadon, Baltimore, to Gov. Lee]

Please Your Exelency The Bearer Mrs Parks is wife to John Parks of This town: who was taken up by Colonl Samuel Smith two months ago on suspicion as Colonl Smith said of Being concerned with the English and having a Commission from them: Mr Parks

had a hearing before Colon[l] Smith a few days after he was confined: there was nothing appeared against him: notwithstanding he is alway kept in prison without the least appearance of Being releas[d] if M[r] Parks should be Innocent as I blieve he is of what is laid to his Charge it is Very hard that he should be kept confined: from his wife and family: I beg your Exelency may take the Prisoners case into consideration and Grant him shuch relief as your Justice and wisdom may think fitt. August 13 Red Book No. 18 Letter 125

[Phil. Thomas, Frederick, to His Excell[y] Thomas S. Lee Esq.] (By L[t] Col[o] Wood) August 13

I have inclosed A letter directed to M[r] Gerock, one of the Prisoners sent from Annapolis to our Gaol. As it seems to be An Essay on a Religious kind of Trade carrying on, or to be carried on, by the writer & C[o] & it is probable the Hon[ble] Board May think the subject worth their Attention—the Auther is a German Clergyman—It is thought F—l is a M[r] Furnival—the Prisoner had seen the letter before I knew it, and no doubt will endeavour to give his Father Notice that it is in my possession.

P. Guy & W[m] [Cann?] have enlisted. I shall pay the Prison Fees but shall not give them or M[r] Stephenson any other bounty

Balt[re] Town Aug. 3[d] 1781 August 3

My dearest Son! Your last Letter transfused joy & happiness into my heart & bowels and almost overwhelmed me with happiness & heartfelt Satisfaction. Far from unmanly grief grining or whimpering I only wrote from a Sense of true tender & parental affection to my first born & only son. Rest assured that you could not possibly receive with more pleasure and greater Satisfaction what I sent to your Support & comfort, than I have felt in doing it most willingly and cheerfully being firmly resolv'd upon to continue in the same mind & repeat it as often as possible and necessary. You Know, tenderness of Love (especially parental) Softens the mind and may even wet a compassionate and most Affectionate Father's eye with melted tears, without tho' weakening the minds fortitude &c. Believe me, I felt more for your sake's than for my own self, being long ago (these 30 years) accustomed to troubles, Afflictions, injuries, oppressions, calamities, plunderings, & insults from high and low, Pharisees & Scribes etc, etc.

But hope and wish for your deliverance and pray to God to protect comfort and Assist you now and for ever, Amen.

Now for affecting & interesting news: Know then (I hope to your Sorrow in some manner) that our Sweet & promising fine flower, lately & happily unfolded is decayed, our dear little Samuel deceased on tuesday last at 12 o'clock A. M. having on Monday morning been

August 3 of a Sudden attacked by the lock-jaw fits to the great grief of Us all, old & young, the more so, as his own father & Uncle by his leaving us so suddenly were deprived of the sweet pleasure to see & embrace him only once. The Lord gave & took him, blessed be his holy name! Monday afternoon he was christened by your own Name Samuel, Wednesday at 12 o'clock A. M. buried decently in the same grave with his late brother John William. May He enjoy Gods peace Salvation & blessings eternally! We there find and embrace him again!

I had indeed Sealed two of my letters with my usual Seal and shall continue to do so. Fetching Lumber etc. for the Use of Town & adjacent Country and in return to supply the lower parts of M. with merchandize, is really Serving one's Country; this I meant by the expression. N B. Another and last application to Gov. & Council may bring about your deliverance & then we hope to see you soon. After that you might stay perhaps somewhere down the bay, where it would suit best to carry on & continue your intended trade, and make returns for the goods Mr F—l would forward to you? Consider well, being sensible I hope of what I meant and as yet wish for. I must needs tell you tho I hope not to your hearts grief, that at last Miss B. W—l was yesterday Night married by me to Mr Messonnier a french Swiss gentleman, who made me a generous present. There is plenty of girls left all over the Town & Country, even some worthy and suitable ones. Your great coat as you dont want it send to Mr Leypolds partner who will forward it home.

The papers are all Safe returned. Herewith comes the wanted hdkf. Every thing to supply your wants & even to satisfy your wishes & desires, shall be at your Service at all times hereafter, in the best manner possible. Only ask & comand them.

Mr Gray came home lately from Wilmington, where he stayed about 12 days, he's well Satisfied & of good cheer; presents his Compliments, along with Mr Tshudy. I was told the other day, that a certain N. N. of Pennsylv. having been suspected of and charged with, what fools and Idiots call toryism, after Suffering heroically some weeks close confinement, seeing no justice done him by the President & Council, thought it best to give them the Slip, & leaving a Paper behind told them his reasons for doing so, Viz: not at all a consciousness of guilt or crime comitted, nor fear, or spirit of revenge but a Sense of inocence, honest intention to pursue his Lawful course & business all over the Country, disgust to Law Suits and disinclination as well as disability to Satisfy the thirst of blood suckers etc. The most sensible honest & impartial of the people approved of it. But dumb ears (would not) cannot hear! The Supreme Judge of All sees and hears the Afflictions and Voice of the Oppressed. Whereas Liberty of thought Conscience Speak! In popish Spain & Portugal the best Christian & honest Man will be censured and condemned & tortured by the holy Inquisition (dont laugh) on the

charge [damaged] of a Single rascal or devil incarnate [damaged] did they know you are a true Protestant or [damaged] How widely differs the American Inquisition from that [damaged] The best and noblast thing you can do, with regard to your little helpless Nieces & Nephew, is to love them affectionately tenderly and carefully, and to assist kindly in providing for their Education and Support, which will draw down from God blessings & rewards upon your own Family that may be in its own time. You are well Sensible of the propriety and Necessity thereof, The poor girls often inquire where their uncle was, and Henry always (when he comes to see his mother up Stairs in your Bedroom) lifts up the bed cover to look at and after his dear brother little Samuel, stands & calls out to him as he used to do while alive. This renews the wound of your Sisters heart. The 2 girls remember well, that their dear uncle has promised to bring them Something. In its due time it may be well done, to their hearts joy. We all, thank God, enjoy a good health, and your hearty disposition fortitude & firmness of Mind, gives me the fullest and most agreeable Satisfaction and Sets my heart fully at rest. To the above Virtues join yet sincere christian Devotion prudence inoffensiveness & Circumspection! May God [damaged] graciously grant them & inspire you therewith [damaged] prayeth & hopeth, August 3

Your Affectionate faithful Father
John S. Gerock

I am apt to fear that some malevolent or careless Person has either forgot or neglected to forward to you a Letter from F—l or even intercepted it. It makes us very uneasy. No Safe opportunity had sooner offered to send this Letter by. We are all well, thank to God, but almost at a Loss what to think or do. We wish heartily to see you if possible soonest.

To, Mr Samuel Gerock
in
Annapolis
Inclosed 3£ Specie,
To the Care of the Rev^d^ M^r^
Krug minister in Fredriktown.

[N[athaniel] R[amsey], Annapolis, to Thomas Johnson, Esqr. Frederick County] August 13 [Copy]

Upon a Strict Scrutiny into the situation profits and advantages of the Nottingham Co^ys^ property now ordered to be sold, and comparing therewith the mode and manner which the law seems to point out for the Sale thereof, I am of opinion that a strict adherence thereto will be a great disadvantage to the State. The law seems to have in over the continuing of the works as works and therefore directs that a sufficient quantity of land, negroes and stock of every

August 13 [Copy] kind be sold together in undevided tenths, upon examination I find that the whole of the lands (about 11000 Acres) are not more than sufficient for that purpose, and that all the working Negroes and the whole of the Stock are also necessary. I also find upon enquiring of the Manager, and viewing the Books that this capital valued at a very moderate rate (and much lower than it would actually sell for if parceled out) will not produce to the purchasers more than two ꝑ cent of neat profits on the purchase money, from whence I conclude, that no Company will purchase the works at more than half their value with a view of carrying them on, nor do I think it probable that any Company will carry them on when they will find that it will be so much more to their advantage to break them up and parcel out the lands into farms and of course the public will be disappointed in their wishes of having them carried or continued. The Ore is now become very scarce and exceedingly hard to be come at They have to bring it from Ann Arundel County, and are obliged to handle it nine times before it comes to the furnace I am clearly of opinion that by selling the whole together the public will loose at least £20,000 and afterwards not gain their purpose.

We have it in contemplation to advertise the property, to be sold in parcels, that is the Furnace, by its self and the Forges by themselves alloting to each a small quantity of land, and a few of the negroes absolutely necessary for carrying on the business, and afterwards to proceed to the sale of the other lands divided into Farms and also the Negroes and other stock by this mode of sale those who purchase the works may also purchase the other lands, Negroes & stock if they think proper. There is no doubt but the seats where the works stand will sell well as they are firmly calculated for any kind of water works, the situation of the long calm in particular is perhaps not inferior to the Brandywine, for Mill seats and the two Forge Houses may with a small expence be converted into two excellent mills. But as this will be deviating considerable from the mode pointed out by the law, we propose to appoint the day of sale after the meeting of the Assembly that they may have an opportunity to alter the plan should they disapprove of it. I would sir be extremely obliged to you for your sentiments on this subject, in a letter directed either to Baltimore or Annapolis, to which ever place a conveyance may first offer, and I will defer advertising for sometime in hopes to hear from you.

August 14 Red Book No. 2 Letter 6

[W. Smallwood, Annapolis, to Governor Lee]

It appears by Certificates from Lieu[t] Baldwin Acting Quarter Master, and Commissary Crysal, that there is due the third Maryland Regiment eighteen hundred and Seventeen Pounds of Beef on account of deficient Rations.

I have appointed Lieu^{t} Denny to receive Payment for the same, and shall be glad you will give an Order on the Treasurer that the Money may be paid to him.

August 14
Red Book
No. 2
Letter 6

[Tho. Beatty to Gov. Lee.] (p^{r} favor Col^{o} Wood)

August 14

I have to inform you that I have applied to Col^{o} Thomas Price for Either Rum or whisky for my select Company of Militia when in Actual Service and the Col^{o} says he has no orders to issue any and my men now on Guard over the State prisoners in Frederick Town Goal do murmer much of being Clipt of their jill per Day as usial; if there is allowed any I should Take it as a favour If you would order it to be done other ways to Drop me a few Lines by the Bearer hereof that I may inform my men of it that they may no what they have to depend on

[George Dashiell, Salisbury, to Gov. Lee.] (Fav. by Capt. Maxwell)

August 14

I have accidently fell in with Capt Maxwell at this place, who informs me that he intends immediately to Annapolis, I begg lieve to inform your Excellency that yours of the 23rd July which contain'd your requisition for the immediate march of the recruits Substitutes & Draughts never came to hand til the 9th Ins^{t} on the receipt of which I dispatch'd messengers to the whole of them in the county, & they are this day to collect together at Princess Ann and this place, The Lieut of Worc^{r} rec^{d} y^{rs} of the 23rd July at the same time that I did, the draughts for Wor^{c} are to collect this day at Snow Hill, and will on thursday next, March in Comp^{y} with those from Som^{t} to Annapolis. The Select Militia is also completed in both these Co^{tys} and we shall immediately send up for Commissions

[Dan Jenifer, Piscattaway, to Gov. Lee.]

August 14
Thursday
Morn
Red Book
No. 29
Letter 56
[Indorsed: "Mr. Landsdale is desired to deliver this letter to the Governor as soon as he gets to Town. D. Jenifer."]

I am told here by a Gentleman of Character that Capt Taylor had from Col^{o} Hooe only ⅔ Cost p C^{t} for the Cargo, therefore it can not be supposed that he will permit the Staple Articles to be Culled and give 2/6 p Cent Consequently I think it needless to run to the expence of going to London to view the Goods 'till I have the honor of hearing further from Your Excell^{cy} The Gent informs me further that he believes I may get the Goods from Taylor for the same price he paid only allowing him the Cartage and charges.

[W. Smallwood, Annapolis, to Gov. Lee.]

August 14
Brown Book
No. 2
Letter 7

I am informed by William Hancock the bearer, that he came on the 1st of March as a Substitute for the ninth Class in Baltimore: That he was to receive the highest bounty then given. That Caleb

August 14 Brown Book No. 2 Letter 7 Hall was head of the Class, received the money which has been repeatedly demanded, but has never paid it to Hancock—who enlisted for Three years has a Wife and three small Children to maintain, with whom he wishes to leave the Money before he marches. The neglect of many of the County Lieutenants, Fraud of many of the Classes and Persons finding Substitutes—The repeated and never ceasing Complaints of the Soldiery under that description, induce me to solicit that your Excellency and Board would call on the Lieutenants invariably to see the Men paid, and to make regular Returns of every detachment they March similar to those I transmitted you—and also for them to call for and transmit to you all Deficiencies due from their Classes, or Persons within the Circle of their Command, to Soldiery under the above description

August 14 [W. Smallwood to His Excellency, Gov. Lee.]

The Bearer Samuel Tindell wounded at the Action of Guilford comes under the Description nearly of those Invalids lately arrived here from Charles Town to whom an Advance of five pounds was made on Acc^{t} of their sufferings He has been long a Soldier and has large Arrears of Pay and Cloathing due & must appear an object of compassion and from his wounds & inability stands entitled to this indulgence equally with the above recited Invalids He is therefore referred to your Board for the same

[P. S.] Captn Denny or some other officer must draw the money for this man. by applying for an order from the Governor and Council on the Treasurer which they have agreed to grant.

W. Smallwood
15th Augt 1781

August 14 [Hezekiah Reeder, Port Tobacco, to Col^{o} John H. Stone, Annapolis]
(p Favour W. Clements)

I received orders from the Governor & council to have the Cattle sent to Annapolis in droves not less than 20 in a drove hope to send the first off this week should have collected them before the orders came to hand only for the want of Cash shall continue to collect them and send as fast as collected unless those orders is countermanded which hope will be the case if Beef can be had from any of the Counties more convenient the excessive heat will make them fall away much by driving. I have been obliged to act here as Issuing Commissary since my appointment hope some person will be appointed to act in that department or an allowance made me which will enable me to get some person to assist in the execution of my office

[James F. Armstrong, Baltimore, to Gov. Lee.] August 15
Red Book
No. 26
Letter 6

As the want of suitable Clothing in the State Store, and the Refusal of the Inhabitants of Baltimore to receive, in Payments, the late Emission, have entirely frustrated the generous Intention of your Excellency and the Council to relieve my temporary wants, I am under the Necessity of renewing my application for an Order for Clothing.

Co[l] S. Smith, who obliges me by conveying this, informs me that by an order directed to him he can supply me.

Could I have purchased what I wanted in Baltimore with the Money I received I would not have taken up your attention by an application which in that Case I should have judged troublesome and unnecessary. But for its uncertain Nature, unknown to you when I received it, I must consider myself in the same Situation as if I had received neither order or Money.

I beg therefore that I may be indulged by an order directed to Col Smith to supply me with what is mentioned in the enclosed order upon the State Store.

[John Done, Geo. Day Scott, Gillis Polk, Robert Dashiell, Wicomaco River, Somerset Co[ty] To His Excellency, Thomas Sim Lee Esq.] (p favour of Col[o] Geo. Dashiell) August 15

May it please Your Excellency The deplorable situation which this shore was in some Little time past being Constantly Infested with the Enemys Barges and the Little prospect we had of being Timely relieved Induced a few friends on this river to Build at their private Expence a Barge, Capable of Carrying 2 . . . . 6 pound Guns, 8 or 10 Swivels &c[a] and to Rowe with 32 Oars, for the Express purpose of defending this & the adjacent Rivers Issuing out of the Sound but not finding, the Incouragement from our neighbours as wee at first Expected and Cash & Materials being very Scarce with us so that a few Could not with any Conviency fit her out So speedily as Wished for think It most advisable to make a Tender of her to your Board at Cost and hope that she will Be Accepted and fitted out for the defence of the sound Imediately or at Least for our mutual defence wee Can with Truth assure you that she is thought by the best Judges, to be as Compleate a Hull of a barge as any Built this war you have the bill of the Dimentions & Cost Inclosed and we shall be much obliged will you Inform us by the first op[ty] whether she will meet with your Acceptance.

[Inclosure]

Barge 54 ft. Keel
14 ft. Beem
3 ft. hold
3 ft. passage Midships
32 Rowlocks with as many Oars

August 15 The Hull Compleatly finish^{d} and seal'd from the Keel up, with a flatt form forward and also Aft with sliding Carrages on Swivils ready to mount 2 four or Six pound Guns, also five Swivil Stocks, on Each side Strapt &c^{a} 4 Amunition Chests &c &c.

The Bill of the above Barge as follows.

Carpenters, Labourers & Smith Bills,	106.. 4..6
1200 f^{t} 1¼ In. Oak planks @ 9/	5.. 8..0
1500 f^{t} pine Ditto	4..10..0
Scantling Stuff for Oars, Carrage Guns &c.	7..10..0
526^{l} Iron, 200 B^{s} Cole & 1 sett Ruther Irons	19..12..3
30 Oak Trees 75/ 1 Bbl Tarr 15/	4..10..0
Cartage &c 75/ 80^{l} Oakam 60/	6..15..0
37½ Gall Rum & Brandy	14.. 1..3
Provisions Cooking, Lodging &c &c.	42.. 6..0
R D for his Time, Trouble in Conducting the above	15.. 0..0
	£225..17..0
4 Amunition Chest	4.. 3
	230.. 0..0

Errors Excepted
Robt Dashiell

August 15 [Clem^{t} Hollyday, Com. for B. P. to Thos B. Hodgkin]

Your fav^{r} of the 10th ꝑ Post has reach'd my hands but does not contain the information necessary, Mr Dulany the elder convey'd all his Lands in Frederick to his two sons Daniel and Benj^{r} except Locust Level, his Deed to Benj: must have been prior to that given to Danl and must Specify the tracts particularly, if therefore you will be so obliging as to favor me with a particular description of the Lands deeded to Ben it will enable me ascertain pretty nearly the property of Young Dan^{ll} Mr F. Deakins is employ'd to survey the confiscated Lands in Frederick and Montgomery Co^{tys} shoud he apply you will be so good as to furnish him with any information which your Office will afford to direct him in that business.

P. S. It is possible that Mr Dulany has first Deeded all his Lands to his son Danl and that Young Danl has afterwards given to his Brother Ben. the Lands he possesses, should this be the case you will be pleasd to describe the Lands deeded by young Danl to his Brother Ben.

August 15 Red Book No. 9 Letter 131 [Thos McKean, President, Philadelphia, to Gov. Lee.]

On the 6th instant in the morning I received your Excellency's letter of the 4th respecting the movements of Ld Cornwallis's Army in Virginia, and laid the same, with the inclosures, before Congress. Copies

were immediately made out, and transmitted to the Board of war and the Presidents of the States of Pennsylvania and Delaware August 15 Red Book No. 9

You will receive inclosed herewith an Act of Congress of the 14th instant and in consequence thereof eight blank passports for the purpose of importing salt from Bermuda. Letter 131

The reluctance with which Congress granted these Passports will appear from the Act itself: necessity alone could justify it; and therefore their extreme caution is expressed in the manner it is, and to prevent as much as possible any jealousies among the Merchants or States on this account.

[J. H. Stone, Annapolis to Hezekiah Reeder Esqr Charles County] August 16

I have yours by Mr Clements—the cattle ought to have been on their way before this & I beg you will loose no time in forwarding them, as the troops at this place have been several times without flesh Provisions, and there being 1100 men at this place, unless some of your Cattle arrive this week they will be again distressed. Mr Dyson was apptd to issue provisions but refused to act, as that business is now at an end, it will be unnecessary to appoint another. I have only two beeves at my plantation in Nanjy the only Beef I shall have for my family next winter, if you can procure your number without them it will be doing an essensial favor

[P. S.] Forward the Cattle immediately—as they are now wanted.

[Richd Lemmon, Baltimore, to His Excely Thomas S. Lee.] August 16

Upon application from Mrs Parks, wife of Mr John Parks, now in prison here, as well from a principle of Justice to him I am indused to adress your Excellency in his favour, so far as to assure you that since he came to reside in this town I have never heard of his saying or doing any thing Injurious to this State or the United States, (this charge Excepted which I would hope is not sufficiently grounded) and from the knowledge I have of the man, am of opinion that his abilities are rather contemtible, and unfit to Serve any Interest Materially, Except that of his family.

[John Smith Brookes, Upper Marlbro, to the Council.] August 16
(By Mr. Lansdale)

I have yours by Mr Scott, and shall pay the greatest respect to the Contents and will loose no time in forwarding the Residue of the Cattle tho this business requires more time than is at first view conceived; as the holders of Cattle very reluctantly part with them and will give the Commissary no assistance in the Collection.

I have an order from Mr Calhoon desiring me to forward all the flower in this Town, immediately to George Town, I should be very happy to receive the Councils opinion upon this Subject—to transport

August 16 the flower by water from this to Potomack, would be attended with very great risque, and to cart it over by land, would cost more than would purchase a Waggon & team under these reflections I have postponed the business untill I hear from you upon the Subject which I beg may be by the return of Mr Lansdale

August 16
Red Book
No. 30
Letter 70

[Geo. P. Keeports, Baltimore, to Gov. Lee]

I yesterday Received from Phil^a ꝑ^r John Fulton & Henry Magill Two Brass 4 pd^rs Mounted on Travelling Carriages with Limbers & Ammunition Boxes Compleat

August 16

[Joseph Dashiell, Snow Hill, to His Ex'cy Thomas Sim Lee.]
(fav^d by Geo. Dashiell, Esq.)

Your favours of 23^d July & 3^d Augt Came to hand the 9th Ins^t in consequence of which I gave orders to our recruits, Draughts & substitutes to prepare to march Immediately, the gratest part of them met me at this place on Tuesday last, and have agreed to march on Friday next, if I can pay them their Bounty, which I am realy afraid I Cannot, as it is imposable to Colect it from those that owe the 4 ꝑ Cent however as many as I can pay, will march with the late Draughts many of which seem very willing to do their Touer of duty; others I am afraid will desert.

I have very Carefully Examined into the Complaints of the Draughted men, and such as Came within the law I have Discharged, the reasons shall Come with the officer that Brings up the men. I have in sum Instances done what is not waranted by the law, for whare a Draught did not find a substitute within Twenty days he could not find one, Except he Inlisted to serve three years, many Complained that they did not know that, and sum married men that have large Familys & ware in years I Rec^d substitutes from to serve the same time they ware Compeled to serve themselves This I hope will meet your Excellencys approbation, as I have done it purely to releave the Distresd, & the public Cannot be worsted by it

Their is Two of Our Draughted men had entered on bord the Barge Protector, Capt Walley, for six months Before the Draught these men have requested me to Join their request to Capt Walleys that they may not be put in the Land Service, as they are already Ingaged in the service of the State by water which they much prefer, tho they are perfectly satisfyed to march if their is a real Necessity and you order them so to do, I have Consented to let them Continue whare they are untill I heare from you and have your further Directions.

Inclosed you have the role of the Select Militia, hope you will send down their Commissions, as they stand recomended on the role, I should have sent them up sooner by Express but had not as much

money in my hands and Credit in public office have now I observe you have appointed a Special Court for the Eastern shore, as soon as I have the Judges Directions I shall send our Criminals forward to Cambridge. August 16

The Barer my Bro: will have full power to Contract for the Barge at Salesbury, I am Convinced she will answer your purpose as she is by fair the finest Barge I ever saw. Very Capable of Caring two four pounders six Swivels & Sixty men, & Smal armes.

I have Inclosed Mr Duers Com. who resigns from Indisposition plese send a Com. for Stephen Allen who is Recomended.

I shall wright you more fully by the recruits.

P. S. Exquese my half sheet of Paper it is All I have & their is none to be had heare

[W. Smallwood, Annapolis, to Gov. Lee.] August 16 Brown Book No. 2 Letter 14

The Bearer William Welsh engaged as a Substitute to serve nine Months for Capt Dickersons Class in Baltimore County, for which he received £22.10. Specie and advanced the same Sum to John Campbell an Apprentice tho enrolled a Militia Man; was passed and received in the stead of Welsh by Mark Alexander acting under the County Lieutenant of Baltimore County, and in pursuance whereof Welsh got a discharge or Receit

John Brown the Master conceiving injustice was done him, forced his Apprentice to return Home, whom he severely punished, put him in Prison & afterwards sold him for £22.10. specie to another Class contrary to the Lads inclination, for which he never woud nor has enrolled to all which he acquaints me Lieu^t^ Hamilton is privy.

As it appears an hardship that William Welsh shoud be retained in the Service after paying the Money for a Substitute, which was admitted by the County Lieu^t^ he is referred to the Governor and Council for Redress—and to determine whether the Class which purchased the apprentice of Brown shoud not be compelled to furnish another Substitute, or Brown to pay Welsh his Money.

[Mark Alexander, Baltimore, to His Excelency Thos. S. Lee, Esqr.] August 17

At the request of Mrs Parks I beg leve to mention to your Excellency & your Honors that I have inquired as much as I conveniently could into the conduct of John Parks now confined in prison, on Susspicion of Treason. And I could not find that there is any Just cause of such a charge against him. And it is the general opinion of the people in this place that the said Parks is clear of the charge. Unless some facts are Stated or charge against him Sent to your Excellency, It is hoped you will please to relesse him from his present confinement.

August 17 [Jas. Calhoun, Baltimore, to Gov. Lee.]

The bearer of this Mrs Parks waits on your Excellency respecting her Husband who has been confined in the Jail of this County for some considerable time past on suspicion of being concerned with the conspirators of Fredk & Washington Counties in their late unnatural rebellion against the State, but as we learn no evidence has been produced to support the charge during the Sitting of the Court at Fredk presume Your Excellency will not think it necessary to detain him any longer in Custody unless you should be possessed of other information respecting his Guilt than what has come to our knowledge. Under this Idea Mrs Parks presumes to apply for his discharge & has requested me to trouble your Excellency on the Subject

August 17 Red Book No. 26 Letter 30 [Col. Sam: Smith Balt. to His Excelly Thomas S. Lee Esqr]

This will be presented your Excelly by Mrs Parks the wife of John Parks now Confin'd in Jail, on suspicion of being Concern'd with the Tories of Frederick. His Conduct since his residence in this place has been peacable. He has generally attended the Militia. I am inform'd there is no Evidence against him. I do not Consider him a dangerous Person, & Beg permission to Intercede with your Excelly for his release.

August 18 [Richd Barnes, Leod Town, to His Excellency Thos Sim Lee Esqr]

This will be delivered to you by Nicholas Goldsbury, and Cutht Jones, of the drafted Militia, to serve till the tenth of Decr 1781, the Ballance of the men, I have not been able to collect, and I am apprehensive it will not be in my power to do, as most of them have left the Coty

August 18 Red Book No. 5 Letter 101 [Dan'l Carroll and Dan of St. Thos. Jenifer, Philadelphia, to Gov. Lee.]

A favourable occasion offering to obtain from Congress particular passports, for the importation of a quantity of salt into our State, we made an application for that purpose, & the Letter you will receive herewith from the President, contains the resolves of Congress thereon & the passports

Mr Mullahon has only sold 12 hhds of Tobacco—the proceeds of which divided between Mr Potts & ourselves have afforded a very scanty releif. The Tobacco on hand being from the Lower warehouses & bad in quallity, will hardly comand any price; the charges being paid very little will be put into our pockets. Unless we can receive assistance some other way, we shall remain under very great dificulties, or shall be oblig'd to part with the Tobacco on terms very disadvantagious to the State.

Mr John Ross inform'd Mr Mullahon that he wanted abt Six hundred Barrls of flour at Baltimore & that he wou'd supply us with money, if you cou'd let him have that quantity or a part of it. If you shou'd be of opinion that it wou'd be to the advantage of the State to persue that measure, until a reasonable price can be obtaind for the Tobacco (Mr Mullahon says 15/ ꝑ Ct in cash cannot be obtained for what he has on hand) we shall be glad to receive yr directions to treat with Mr Ross, or any other person who may want flour in Baltimore. August 18 Red Book No. 5 Letter 101

21st The president informs us that he has forwarded the passports

[James Lloyd, Kent County, to His Excellency Thomas Sim Lee Esquire] August 18

Mrs Gordon is very desirous to see her husband Mr Charles Gordon before he embarks from New York for Scotland where he writes her he intends going very soon. He informs her that he has good reason to think something favorable to the fortunes of his children may turn up if she will consent to his taking some of them across sea with him and permission can be obtained from the Executive of this State for them to come to him; and requests in case Mrs Gordon consents that she will appoint a time for their meeting. The character of Mrs Gordon truly amiable and respectable and the attachment of her father and brothers (three of whom belong to the Navy of these States) to the Independance of America fully persuade me that I do not desire an improper thing when at her instance I request the favor of you to furnish her with the necessary passes and permits.

[David Poe, D. Q. M., Baltimore, to Gov. Lee.] August 18

Your Excellency will herewith Receive an Invoice of one hundred Barrels of Flour which is the number you wrote for to Mr Calhoun. We have had every Barrel this Day Examined which is Fresh being neither musty nor Soure, perhaps the Quality of some part of it may not be so good as might be Expected, but it is the best we have and what we Receive from the State, the law only allowing the Bran and Shorts to be taken out. I am sorry the last sent proved Bad, only a few Weeks Since we Received it, there was Arbitrators called to Judge betwixt the State and the United States and they Allowed that it was Good agreeable to the Present Law

NB. The Invoice was sent to the Issuing Commy

Recvd Baltimore Augt 18th 1781 from Matthew Swan Conl Store Keeper one Hundred Barrels flour in Good Order Wt Nt Twenty two Thousand four hundred & Thirty seven pounds as ꝑ Invoice Which I Promise to Delver at Annapolis being for the Use of the Troops, Under the Command of Genl Smallwood for which I have Signed two Recpts of the same Tenor & Date

Edward [illegible]

August 18 [Matt. Ridley, Baltimore, to His Excellency the Governor.]

I have the honor to forward you two letters from the Super Intendant of Finance relative to two thousand Barrels of Flour to be provided by this State.

My Instructions are to receive the Flour into proper stores provided for the purpose and to be carefull as to the quality & Condition; on which a report is to be made. This will make the Inspection of the whole necessary.

I am further instructed to advise when the Flour can be delivered—(The 24th Cur. is the time limited to me) and if the whole is ready.

For the purpose of speedily informing Mr Morris on these Heads I send the letters by express & beg to be favored with your Excellency's Orders.

August 19 [James Hendricks, Alexandria, to Gov. Lee.]

I received the anex'd from Majr Washington one of the Marquis La Fayette's Aids which occasions me to trouble your Excellency on this occasion.

The Cartridge Boxes the Majr Mentions are much wanted below, I will therefore thank you to inform me who is to be apply'd to for them and I will send over for them; as I conduct the Quartermaster's department in this Vicinity, I conceive the person who hath them will find no inconsistency in delivering to me.

[copy] Dear Sr There is a considerable number of Cartridge Boxes the property of this State in Annapolis, I wish you contrive some means of getting them over as we are in much want of them, Governor Lee will be good enough to inform you who is to be apply'd to for them.

Wt much esteem I am yr Obedt Servt

Geo. Washington A D. C.

August 19 Red Book No. 30 Letter 64 [Copy] [Charles Blake, Corsica, to Colo. H. Hollingsworth.]

By Capt. Barrington I send 154 Barrels of flour all that is made; I have (as the Millers inform me) 110 to make which the want of water has prevented being made, they say it shall be done in two weeks, the Invoice of the flour by mistake has been sent to Mr Bruff to whom 63 Barrels of the above belongs as you'l see by the marks, the collection of wheat will begin in a few days, there will be a great deal collected; I wish you would instruct me to send what is collected in the granarys on Chester to Elk as soon as Collected, as I have no Cash to have it waggoned to the Mills, which are 12 Miles distant and if I had would be double the expence of sending it in wheat to Elk. I am happy in having this ready to answer your call, and every exertion in my power shall at all times be made to serve the Public

[John S. Gerock, Min. Balt^re^ Town to His Excellency Sim Lee, Esq. Gov and the Honble Council]

August 20
Red Book
No. 28
Letter 15

Honourable Gentlemen. Your Excellency and the Honble Members of the Council kind Condescension to comply with my own & Capt. Furnivals humble & joint request, regarding the enlargement of my Son now grievously confined these Seven weeks past on information and mere suspicion, could not but impress us with Sentiments of the profoundest respects and grateful Acknowledgment which we beg leave cordially to express and testify by these presents.

As in our own humble opinion, to be bound in the penalty of one thousand pound Specie for good behaviour during this present War between America and great Britain and to stay in a Single County only, seems to be a most grievous and Severe punishment, and willingly to submit to it previously to a Lawful trial and judgement of the general Court, to be nothing less than a voluntary Acknowledgment of guilt: We think it therefore a mere impossibility for us or any body else to comply with terms the fullfilling of which is out of our own or any mortals power because the present destructive & impoverishing War between America & great britain might continue for another Seven years and my Son by Providence be called or led to another Town County or even State he being already 28 years of age, Single & no where fixed or Settled as yet, but in conscience bound, to provide honestly for himself and as a free Subject to use all Lawful means for his own Self preservation and competent Subsistence; when it would of course be merely impossible for myself or any man to answer for his Conduct and behaviour, should he be absent distant and out of my Sight reach inspection influence or direction.

But as we are most willing and ready to do every thing in our power for the Safety and Satisfaction of our State, we in humble Submission offer the proposed and herewith inclosed Bond to Government, which as we hope, being approved of, we humbly beg Your Excellency and Honble Council will be pleased to make out an order to the Sheriff of Frederic County for the imediate discharge and release of my Son Saml Gerock After his trial at the next general Court, where we suppose and have just reason to hope nothing will be found against him and the charge be declared groundless, we humbly beg and hope, my Son will then have this bond returned and see himself restored to the full enjoyment of all the Rights Liberties and privileges of a free Citizen, he being from thence forward by his Loyalty and the obligations of all the Laws Sufficiently bound to good behaviour and restrained from doing any wrong or harm, in comon with all the other Subjects of the State.

We therefore humbly entreat and request Your Excellency and Honble Council to favour this our Cause to grant our joint prayers for the release & enlargement of my unhappy Suffering Son, to allow

August 20 Red Book No. 28 Letter 15 him the privilege to follow his lawful business within the limits of our State, to expedite & forward to us an order for his immediate discharge from prison. In doing which Your Excellency and Honours will lay us under the greatest additional Obligations, and at the same time thereby kindly relief the distressed heart of an anxious afflicted and Sorrowful Father who begs the honour to be with the greatest Respect and Esteem Your Excellency's and The Honble Council's Most obedient & most humble Servt

August 20 [Erasmus Gantt, Prince Georges County, to Gov. Lee.]

I wrote you some time past by Dr Denwood respecting my appointment in the State Troop, requesting your Excell^y^ would grant your Interest, in procuring me an appointment in the Regiment of Horse to be raised by the State; I should be sensible of an Impropriety in the request, was there any prospect of your Excell^ys^ being able to raise Captn Lingan a Troop Shortly, or admitting it was raised, of his being able to take Command, (from a late Indisposition, which has rendered the Advantages of the warm Springs to him, Indispensable) during the space of two or three months. Should your Excell^y^ procure me a Commission in the Reg^t^ of Horse, at any future day when you may find the raising Captn Lingan a Troop expedient. I will act in either as your Exc^y^ may think most proper, at present I am wholly unimployed

August 20 [Charles G. Griffith to Gov. Lee]

Sundry Gentlemen in this County sensible of the Great Utillaty of a troop of horse upon any emergency or Sudden Depredations of the enemy, have Enroled themselves under articles Subject to the Act of Assembly Passed at June Session 1780

Haveing the honour of the Command of this troop Confered on me; At their Request solicit your Excellency and honours to Furnish them with Swords Pistols and holsters at the Publick Expense and I will be answerable For their Return Unless taken by the Enemy.

The Troop will be in Readiness if Furnished Agreeable to the Above Request in three Weeks

August 20 [Tho. Price, Frederick Town, to the Governor and Council.]

I have been directed by the Comm^y^ General of the Western Shore, to forward with all Expedition the Flour collected at the several Mills in this County to Balt^o^ and George Towns, & in Consequence have endeavoured to procure any engage the necessary Waggons, but find it impossible as nothing more can be done without Money.

I am already considerably behind Hand for Flour Casks & Waggon Hire, also for Provisions of the Meat Kind having for some

Time past issued from one hundred to one hundred & fifty Rations per Day, to the Militia, Recruits, Guards & Tories, upon the whole I have had great Difficulties to struggle with, for Want of seasonable Supplies of Money, therefore hope you will now furnish me with about 2 or 300£, as well to enable me to pay off the most necessitous, amongst the Coopers & Waggoners, as to comply with the Orders of the Comm^{y} Gent; and this I hope you will the more readily do when you may be assured that I have not yet received more than about £12. from the County Collector of the £200—ordered by the Act of Assembly. August 20

Mr Dowson the Bearer of this has promised to take Charge of & bring to me any Money you may think proper to send.

[Hezekiah Reeder, Port Tobacco, to the Council.] August 20

I have yours of the 17th Ins^{t} am Sorry it has not been in my power to forward any of the Cattle sooner. Edward Kerrick will deliver 22 wherever you will direct, shall have another drove ready to send of in a few days, I shall be in want of a further supply of Cash which hope you will send by Kerrick the Collection of the Cattle will come very high they being dispersed over the County.

[Jos^{a} Beall Lieu^{t} P^{s} G^{s} C^{ty} to His Excell^{y} Thomas Simm Lee Esqr] August 20

The Bearer Jeremiah Turner one of the Drafts for this County has been with me to get Excused from the draft as he does not come fully within the Description of those who I am impowered to Excuse I have refered him to your Excellency & Hon^{rs} I know but very Little of him any more than that of his being a man of property

[Petition of Jeremiah Turner] August 20

The humble Petition of Jeremiah Turner of Prince G. Co^{ty} to his excel^{y} Tho. Simm Lee Govr in and over the State of Maryl^{d} and the Honourable the Upper House of Assembly.

Humbly sheweth—As a Draughted Man Your Petitioner begs leave to Represent to y^{r} Excell^{y} his Situation and Circumstances now at present depending (to wit) he being a Married Man and having the care and Management for three Orphans, who are Minors, whoes Concern is Pritty considerable, and should he be forced from them and his family; they must unavoidably suffer greatly beyond Comprehention, as there is near twenty Slaves under his direction, the Crop and Stock must Principly be lost in his Absence therefore he begs y^{r} Excell^{y} will favourably hear his and the familys Grievance, & redress them, for which favour he will forever be in Duty Bound to Pray &c.

We whoes Names are hereunto subscribed do recommend to y^{r} Honours the above Petitioner case to bear a Preportion to the Repre-

August 20 sentation above—and clear from any Dissemulation or Disaffection to our Cause, and that his an industrious Diligent Honest Man.

Thos Beall, Thos G. Watkins, Archibald Elson, Rezin Beall.

August 21 [Sarah Brown, Philadelphia, to Governor Lee]

Please to permit me to acquaint your Excellency, that it is now upwards of Eight Months since the departure of my Husband from this place, during which time he has never made me any remittance whatever, which has reduced me to great inconvenience and distress. House Rent here is so extravagantly dear, as well as all the necessaries of Life, that I have been obliged to part with some Articles of great Value, for less than half their worth to enable me to support myself. My present occasion and very urgent necessity has constrained me to draw on you for Twenty half Johanneses, in favor of Captain Gazaway, which sum I hope will enable me to discharge the Debts I owe, and maintain myself until I hear from my Husband, to whom I write by this opportunity, to acquaint him that I have drawn for Money agreeable to his advice and direction. Whatever remittance is made me must be in hard money, or it will be of no service here. The distressed situation I am in I hope you'l please to admit as a sufficient apology for the trouble this Letter will give you; and in full hopes that you'l pleased to Honor my Draft.

N B. If you have lately heard from my Husband Please to let me know it, as I have not received a line from him for upwards of Six Months.

August 21 [Sarah Brown, Philadelphia, to Governor Lee.]

Please to pay to Captain John Gazaway or order Twenty half Johannes's which place to the account of Major William Brown of the Maryland Artillery.

August 21 Red Book No. 27 Letter 58 [Stephen Steward, to the Governor & Council]

Honrebell Gentlemen I find I have not Iron Enuf to finish the Galle so shall be oblege to you give me an order on Mr John Shriver for one ton more which I now am In want of

August 21 [Jas. Calhoun, Baltimore, to the Council.]

I was favoured with yours of the 20th requiring me to deliver Mathew Ridley Esqr two thousand Barrels of sweet Merchantable flour on the 24th Current.

It is utterly impossible for me to comply with this requisition for Months to come as there is scarcely a Barrel of flour belonging to this State now in my District that will answer that description, what was made in Harford Baltimore & Ann Arundle Counties has been mostly delivered to Coll Smith and is greatly short of his order and there has been no directions given in any of the other Counties to

have Merchant flour made except in three Mills of Frederick County, until lately when I undertook of my own accord to write to the Commissaries of Frederick and Washington Counties to have as much of the Wheat then unground as they possibly could manufactured into Merchantable flour and sent to this place as speedily as in their power, but Col[l] Price writes me that he is not able to forward the flour for want of money to pay the carriage and that he had wrote you to the same purpose, and it must be still more difficult for Col. Rawlings to forward his as the carriage will be nearly equal to the value of the flour. Pray direct what is to be done as I fear it is now souring in the Mills August 21

M[r] Dallam sent a quantity of flour lately to the Head of Elk by my directions and the greatest part of it was refused by the Continental Quarter Master as being soured and unfit for use. He informed Col. Hollingsworth and M[r] Dallam that he could receive no flour but such as would pass as Merchantable. If that is the case what is to be done with the Meal & Midling.

I am oblidged to purchase all the Meat now Issued at this Post from the Butchers and am not able to raise money to pay for it, the season will not admit of killing Cattle even supposing we had them as the Issues is not equal to consume a Beef while it would keep good. M[r] Griffith tells me he has not received any directions from you respecting the seizing or purchasing of cattle.

As soon as it is in my power to collect the returns of the flour and other Provisions del[d] the continent they shall be forwarded.

[Jos[a] Beall, Lieu[t] P[s] G[s] Cty Prince Geo[s] C[ty] to His Excell[y] Tho[s] Simm Lee, Esq[r]] August 21

I receiv[d] Yours of the 14th instant respecting the Draft of Nich[s] Waters this day. At the time of making out the Clases for the Middle Battalion, when we were making out Class N° 4 some person, but who I dont remember, said that Walter Findley was Entered on board a vessell to go to sea, But as I had had reasons of the same kind offered in Clasing the other Battalions, which I was convinced was only to Evade the Draft; And as no Vessell could at that time get out, without the utmost risque from the Enemie, I included him in the Class.

At the time of Drafting this Class the lot fell on Sam. Club (a son of Mathew Clubs a poor man who had been Drafted in the last Clases and been at considerable Expence in procuring a Substitute) and Walter Findley; on Findleys being Drafted, several persons Avered that he was then Entered and on board a vessell at Alex[a] that was to sail next day as Mathew Club had no Chance of keeping his son who was but a lad to help him to Labour, and there being 3 or 4 men returned more than the 20 men in a Class, who at that time was not

August 21 in any Class, But was keept back till the last of the Clases being drawn, to supply any deficiency that might happen in drawing the first Clases. I had Findley struck out of the Class and one Jacob Vermillion put in, and the class drawn again, the lot fell on Nicho^{s} Watters & Wm Virmillion as I was informed that Waters was a young single man who had some dependance, I appointed him as the person to go, without any peique or partiallity, as I dont know that I ever saw or heard of the young man before. There was a Case of nearly the same kind hapened in Clasing the Upper Battalion, in Class N° 13 Thos Devin Williams was Drafted with a man who was an indented servant, Over Age & a Cripple, this I knew nothing of till a few days before the Drafts were to appear at Marlbro. Williams complained that he had not an Equal chance with other men unless the Class was drafted over again, as the person drafted against him was Exempt by Law in more instances then one; As I thought his complaint reasonable, I told him I would have the Class drawn over again for one man in the place of the person who was Exempt by law, But that he must stand as one of the Drafts himself. I Accordingly had that Class drawn again, the lot fell on Isaac Walker a young single man, Had the lot fallen on a marryed man, Williams would have been appointed as the person to go, being the most able man in the Class.

But as it was a fixt rule with me where a maryed and single man was drafted in the same Class to send the single man. I therefore appointed Walker as the person to go into service. The Difference Between those two Clases is this the Draft in the Upper Battalion was made some time before the Error was Discovered, that of the Middle Battalion was discovered at the time of Drafting, which I endeavoured to rectifie before I went any farther on. In the first Clases this spring I drew 3 of them over again owing to Neglect of the officers in returning men on there rolls that were not fit for duty, one of those men as well as Mr Walker refuses to go into Service as they were not drafted the first time; I find there are various opinions with respect to the Legallity of drafting the second time, As to my own part I always thought it unreasonable that the State shuld loose a man by the Negligence of the officers in returning men unfit for Service. If I am wrong I shuld be Glad to be set right; I have Ever Endeavoured to do Everything in my power for the good of the American cause, and shall While I am able, continue to do so, But really people differ so mutch in opinion, Especially in matters that concern themselves & their own connection, in which they are very apt to ingrose to themselves the sole right of judging, that a man had almost as well be a pack horse, as a Leiu^{t} of a County. I this day had the petition of Basil Shaw put into my hands, he was Drafted against another Marryed man who had a Wife and Children. & has been out in the service of his country, and is a very in-

dustrious man, Shaw from the best information I could get, is a very idle Lasey fellow, who is rather a burden, than a help to his family, for which reason I chose him to go into service, I shall inquire farther into the matter from some persons whose Names are to his Petition. This mode of raising men I think is against both the people & Service, Had the people at large been Taxt half the sum of money it has cost individuals to procure Substitutes, And that money put into the hands of proper officers for recruiting, I am convinced there would have been three times the Number, and good men procured for a length of time. The present mode of raising men is very uncertain, in making out the last clases, I indeavour[d] to put an Equal Number of single men in Each Class, yet in many of the class None but Marryed men were Drafted, in one instance where there were but 5 marryed men in a Class of 20, two of the marryed men were drafted August 21

[P. Thomas, B. Johnson, Frederick to His Excell[cy] Thomas S. Lee Esq[r]] August 21

M[r] Samuel Morris of this place expresses A strong desire to serve his Country in the Field And proposes to Apply to the Hon[ble] Board for An Ensignsy

I beg leave to mention that He supports the Character of a man of Honor is a firm independant Whig and will probably make a good Officer

[P. Thomas, Tho. Price, B. Johnson, Mich[l] Boyer, Frederick to His Excellency Tho[s] S Lee Esq[r]] August 21

M[r] George Ming of this place expresses a Strong inclination to serve in the Army And intends to Sollicit that Hon[ble] Board to appoint him An Ensign in the Maryland line. We beg leave to mention that since his residence here, which is About twelve months, He has supported An unspotted Character. He appears to us to be a very promising Youth, is well attached to the Indepence of his Country and only wants experience to make him a good Officer.

[W. Smallwood, Annapolis, to Gov. Lee.] August 21 Brown Book No. 2 Letter 5

The first and second Continental Regiments to the Southward, and the third Reg[t] now ready to March are in great want of Blankets and other necessaries suitable to equip them for the approaching Winter Season, which if by any means can be procured, I wish to forward under the Escort of this Regiment that the Troops in the Southern Department may be supplied early in the Fall—this is an Object worthy your Attention, to preserve the Men in that unhealthy Climate.

August 21
Brown Book
No. 2
Letter 5

You will also want similar Supplies for the two Regiments of Militia now rendezvousing, out of which I flatter myself numbers will be enlisted to form the fourth and fifth upon the Continental Establishment, which I should have no doubt of compleating, coud the Credit of our Money be kept up, or an Advance of Specie be made to enable me to push the recruiting Service with Spirit and Vigour.

This business will also be greatly encourag'd and facilitated by having Supplies of Cloathing ready for the equipment of the new Recruits. I am therefore induced to inclose you the following Lists of Articles which appear to be most essential to be procured immediately.

NB. Money will be wanting for 150 Men lately enlisted in Addition to those for whom Money has been advanced to Mr Denny

1500 Blankets
Woolen for Overalls 2000 Pair
Brown Book No. 2 Letter 4
Ditto for Coats and Vests. 1500 of each
Linins for Officers & Soldiers Shirting. 1000 for Off^s^ & 2000 Sol^r^
1000 Hatts
3000 p^r^ Shoes, 2000 Buckles, 1500 Knives, metal Buttons.
Worsted Socks
1000 Worsted Yarn, and Thread Stockings
200 Common tents, Sail Cloth, Duck & for Tenting
3000 Russia Sheeting oznab^gs^ and Linins for Summer overalls
200 Camp kettles and common equipage for Soldiery viz. Tin ware, spoons, wooden Bowls, Bucketts &c.
Camp Utensils, Steel
1500^lbs^ Soap 500^lb^ Cand^rs^ Soap, Candles, Paper 20 Reams
Pepper and Vinegar 1000 Gall^s^
Rum and Brandy 2000 Gallons of each
1500^lb^ Coffee Tea Coffee and Sugar. 1 Chest of Bohea ¼ Chest of Congo. 20 Cases of Sugar, Wafers, Ink Powder, & Sealing wax
Sole leather
Mem^o^ of Sundries, wanted in third Reg^t^ 17 Augt 1781

10 Comon Tents 4 Horse d^o^ 20 Camp Kettles	3 Reams comon paper 1 d^o^ fine 1 d^o^ Letter	linen to cover 8 open Waggons Rum Candles &c. Soap.

August 22
Red Book
No. 27
Letter 7

[John Archer, Harford County, to His Excellency Thomas Sim Lee Esqr] (Forwarded by Dr S. Crockett)

Doct^r^ Samuel Crockett has a Desire of entering into the Continental Service as a Regimental Surgeon, should there be a Vacancy in any of the Regiments of this State I would recommend him as a Person well qualified to discharge the Duty of a Surgeon with Honor & Integrity.

[Jos[a] Beall, Lieut P[s] G[s] Cty. Prince Georges C[ty] To His Excell[cy] Tho[s] Simm Lee, Esq[r].] August 22

This will be delivered you by Luke Adams one of the drafts from the last Clases, he and another marry[d] man were drafted in the same Class, they drew for the chance of going, the lot fell on Adams who was Maryed this Spring, has a Crop on hand which he must loose if he goes out, which must be a great prejudice to him, though he has at present no children to maintain; He has been in the service and finding it prejuditial to his health imployed another man to take his place, he has been lately sick and now complains of a pain in his hip w[ch] he says renders him incapable of Marching, he has been of some use to me, having imployed him to ride after some of those men who did not appear and particularly in taking one Nacey Smith a black fellow who deserted from Malbro, He now goes up with one Wise who keept out of the way. If this shuld not be thought a sufficient Excuse, and your Excell[cy] & Hon[rs] think proper to keep him in service, I could wish him to return again to Assist in catching some of those men who keep out of the way, as he is well Acquainted in the different parts of the county, and prety active when in health.

I could wish to have a list of all those men who were returned for the different Clases for this county this year and have not yet appeard at Annapolis, that I may know who are yet behind that have not been Excused.

A report prevails here that our State continentall money is not to be received in the Treashurrey, I could wish to be well informed in that matter, as I am now about making out Executions for all the money that remains due on Clases, and shall be at a loss how to proceed, or What instructions to give the Shereiff in receiving it

[John Smith Brookes, Upper Marlbro, to the Council.] (By Mr. Scott) August 22

I send M[r] Crisall by M[r] Scott 21 Head of Cattle the pressing manner you call upon me in you[r] favour of the 20th instant would not admit of my waiting a moment to collect a larger quantity—my utmost exertion have and shall be employed to compleat the Quantity of Beef you first ordered—was the Commissarys of the other Counties to do their part, I presume the Councels orders would not be so pointed at me. I should hold myself unpardonably culpable was the Troops to suffer the smallest distress from any neglect of mine—the Collection of Cattle, so detached as they are, is attended with very great trouble and requires time. I have not nor will I loose a moment in the business—and I hope to send forward another and more Consideral drove by the early part of next week—the people very reluctantly part with their Cattle and I often meet with very strong opposition

August 22 [Ja^s Calhoun, Baltimore to Mr. Hezekiah Reeder, Com^y of Provisions, Charles County]

As I am frequently called on for returns of the Provisions procured in the different Counties, and they come to me made out in so many different forms (if at all) that it is scarcely possible to make out a general one, so as to be able to tell what quantity of Provisions has been received and what delivered, or what remains on hand, which ought to be done regularly every Month. I have therefore in order to get the returns all alike, made out and now enclose a very plain simple form, which at one view shews the whole up til the first of this Month from the first of February last, which is full as far back as any provisions has been collected under the Act entitled an Act to raise the supplies for the year 1781 and is intended to take in what was on hand at that time of former collections (if any) or what may have been delivered over to you from any other Commissary. Please compleat one agreeable to this form up til the first of August and send me with all possible expedition as it is immediately wanted, And you must also in future make one punctually up to the end of every Month beginning for the first article with what remained on hand the preceeding Month. The greatest difficulty I apprehend will be in assertaining what of the wheat is ground up but this you can only get the best information in your power from the Millers and if not exact, come as near to it as you can, for it is absolutely necessary for us to know nearly what is in wheat and what in flour. Please send a copy of your return to the Governor & Council as well as one to me

August 22 [Rich'd Dallam, Harford County, to Gov. Lee.]

I have sent down every draught from the Militia or their Substitutes that I could get in the remainder of the draughts I fear will not march without severe measures being Pursued.

The Reports from Annapolis are very discouraging to the draughts & several have run off & left their Families They are told that the Militia draughts & the Substitute to 10th December are kept for days without Provisions & very disagreeable methods used to force them to enlist into the regular Army These Reports are prejudicial to the Public Service and therefore mention them Hoping your Excell^cy will enable me to contradict them as false & without foundation, Several of the draughts of this County are Persons of good Carrectors & of Families of Credit & to them it is worse then death to think of meeting such usage in the service of their Country, their Circumstances at the same time do not enable them to procure Substitutes if they were to be had which are not since the circulation of these reports before men were offering themselves and money was only wanting to hire them.

I received orders from Mr Calhoun to forward to Elk all the Corn flour & Midlings I had in my Possession accordingly I sent off to Mr Yeats two Vessel Loads the greater part of which is returned as Sour'd & he writes me his orders are not to receive any flour but such as will Pass Inspection as Fine or Common flour, I have frequently ask'd for directions what I must do with flour I had on hand as I feard by keeping, it w^ld Spoil I suppose that I shall have not less then 500 Barrels of mix'd flour & Midlings in this County if something is not done with it in a short time will be entirely lost to the State August 22

I Borrowed in the Spring 20 Bushels Salt for Public account & am now much in want of Salt to return it, and hope your Excellency will by some means enable me to do it I received directions to apply to Mr Calhoun for what salt I want'd & it w^ld be deliverd but on application he informed me that he had no Salt & never had Orders to procure any. I mentiond this to Your Excellency a month since & as I received no answer am obliged again to mention it.

[Hezekiah Reeder, Portobacco, to the Council.] August 22

I have yours by express, am sorry you incline to think I have not been as expeditious as I might have been in Collecting the Cattle. I readily agree they might have been at Annapolis e'er this could I been furnish'd with Cash when I applyed but had none of the public money in my hands and could not get drivers without the Cash, I received 40£ the 7th Inst. and immediately set out to collect a Drove which is now on their way up—and hope to be able to forward them as fast as they are wantting. I wrote for a further supply of Cash by Edward Kerrick who has the direction of the Cattle.

[William Hanson, Alex^r Baird, William Semans, Solomon Semans, James Clayton, John Zelefro, Samuel Dickinson, John White, Gilbert Semans, Joseph Carrel, to the Governor and Council] August 22 [Indorsed: "Application of James Russel a Draught from Kent County to be Discharged."

We the Subscribers whose Names are underwriten, Do Certifie that the Bearer James Russel is a poor man haveing wife and four Small Children and his wife almost at the Lieing in of the fifth and has nothing to Support them But what he gets by his Labour, and we think if he is Obliged to go to Camp that his wife and Children must Perrish given under our Hands this 22^d Day of Augt 1781.

State of Maryland } On the 23^d Day of August 1781 Came James
Kent County Ss } Russell before me the Subscriber one of the Justices of the Peace for s^d County, and made Oath on the holy Evangels of Almighty God that the within State respecting the Situation of his family are Just and true

Sworn to before
William Henry

August 22 [Indorsed: "Application of James Russel a Draught from Kent County to be Discharged."]

I do hereby testify that the above mention'd James Russell is draughted in the Militia which are to serve until the 10th of Decr next.

William Henry.
23d Augt 1781

[John Stewart, Lt Col. to Gov. Lee.]

August 23 Red Book No. 23 Letter 120

From the example of other Officers I am induced to request that you will be pleased to order a Marquee to be made for the Field Officers of the first Regiment which I have the honor to command

I should not have made this application but that I see other Officers applied, with whom I am equally installed.

I therefore hope my request will not be thought extravagant.

August 23 [William Bordley, Chester Town, Kent County, to Gov. Lee.]
(Favd by Capt. Kemp.)

I have lately receiv'd Several Letters from you, two of which relate to the forwarding the recruits to Annapolis, those raised in consequence of the Law passed last October, have been long since at Annapolis & that part of the Law empowering the Lieutenants to excuse any indigent person drafted, who has a wife & children, we have nothing to do with, having hired recruits for three years. Your appointment as purchaser of cloathing I have receiv'd with an enclosed Law to seize all articles suitable for that Purpose. The dificulty of purchasing without any thing to purchase with, must be very apparent to your Excellcy & to seize those Articles from Merchants, who have very few goods & nothing else to depend on, will prove their ruin; yet I am fully convinced of the necessity of supplying the Soldiery with cloathing; & was it in my power to forward this business with any degree of Propriety, I would undertake it, notwithstanding I am of opinion, that Leiutenants of counties are very improper persons to execute Laws of this nature; should you think it necessary to have seized the few goods in our Town, you will please to appoint some other person for that purpose, as I am already fully employed.

I have enclosed a list of the recruits obtain'd by virtue of the Law, passed last Session, & have engaged Capt Kemp to carry them to Annapolis in his Vessel from our Town, the drafted men are endeavouring to procure substitutes which I will send with all possible dispatch, those who do not get recruits may be very dificult to collect a few of them are poor men with Families. The 27th battalion have furnished their proportion of select Militia, the 13th battalion is Classed for the Purpose of Drafting. Mr George Hanson who was appointed collector of horses refused to Act, he being Lieut in the troop of light horse, had not time to execute the Law—on his refusal, I appointed Capt George Hartshorn who has been very unsuccessful

he has brought for examination about six horses & tells me that the nonjurors have not horses fit for the purpose, I have done all in my power to spur him to execute the Law with dispatch & have requested him to call on the commissioners for their direction. I am apprehensive that I shall not be able to send all the recruits agreeable to my list some of them being in the Country without Permission. August 23

[Chas Blake, Corsica, to His Ex: Thos. S. Lee Esqr] August 23

There is no provision now on hand but about 110 bar: of flour which the Millers could not finish for want of water, but will now be done and sent forward to Col^{o} Hollinsworths order immediately. I sent 154 bar: last week; there will be no provisions of the Meat Kind rec^{d} here this year I believe, as wheat is so plenty and a better price allowed for that than for provisions of the Meat Kind; the People seem all anxious to pay off both taxes in wheat, it is thought there will be near twenty thousand bushels collected in this Country, there is some brann and Shorts on hand which I am apprehensive will spoil by laying; corn is so plenty that there is no markett for them; I have been offer'd ten pence for some, corn is to be had at eighteen, the Millers complain of keeping them in their way; I am affraid I shall be obliged to take that price to gett them out of the way of spoiling.

[J. H. Stone, Annapolis, to Hezekiah Reeder, Esquire, Commissary, Charles County] (By Mr. Kerrick) August 23

I wrote you by our express requesting you not to take any of my Cattle since then the distresses of the troops at this Place has obliged our officers to take every Beef fit for use that Mr Couden & myself had in this County and left us intirely destitute. If therefore you shou'd take any of mine in Charles it will really be distressing & deprive me of meat for my family the ensueing winter. I therefore request you if you have taken any of my Cattle and have not sent them off, that you will return them and I am certain on this information you will think I have contributed at least my Proportion & if not already taken any of them you will not do it. It will be necessary for you to forward without delay the number of Cattle directed by the Go & Co as they will shortly be wanted.

You will receive £60 by Mr Kerrick to defray the expences of your department. I beg you will inform me by the first about my Cattle that I may know how to act.

[Joseph Ford to Gov. Lee.] (Favor of Mr. Campbell.) August 23

I Received a letter from your Honble Board of the 14th Ins^{t} Informing me that Mr Mills was furnished with 50£ of the late emission for the use of my department which he informs me he never

August 23 Received If it should be true that he has not Mr Campbell will Receive and forward it to me I should be Glad to have Instructions what is to be done with the Corn And wheat which I Received and Purchased in the course of the Eight Months past it is much exposed to loss by Rats Lying in the Stores there is not a Mill in my opinion in the County fitting to Manufacture it into flour Mr Fords will do with some Repairs which he talks of doing but then it cannot be done till late in the fall

August 23 [William Hemsley Queen Anns County, to His Excell^{y} Thos. Sim Lee Esq.]

The Select Militia are draughted in this County, and you'll please appoint the officers to command them as Several of the Militia officers are draughted.

In the late Draught for raising the two Regim^{ts} it fell on Mr Joseph Gould a Single Man of small Property who has five Brothers & Sisters to take care of, he also holds an Ensigns comm in the Militia. He has endeavored to procure a Substitute, but has not money or wheat to command one, under these Circumstances I think he ought to be excused from Marching, at least as a common Soldier. This Draught has given great disgust to the officers, so that I much doubt whether we have any Militia officers in future, if they are compelled to do Duty as privates. The Man who keeps the Ferry at Kent Island has declared he will put over no more Soldiers unless he is paid full ferrage. Mr Beeton goes down with four Substitutes & one Draft and the rest shall be got as soon as possible, but they are so dispersed over the County that they are extremely difficult to collect especially those who are unwilling to go.

I shou'd be much obliged to have your Directions with respect to Mr Gould.

[P S] Genl Smallwood discharged a Draught from this County, & his Aid Capt Jones has wrote me to send another man in his room—this I conceive I have no power to do. The Fellow has emposed on the Genl as he endeavored to do on me ab^{t} his being blind, but several of the people who are well acquainted with him tell me since his discharge that he can see very well—if I had not thought so I wou'd not have sent him.

August 23 [Rich'd Lemmon, Baltimore, to the Council.]

Your Honor's favor I this Hour rec^{d}, I am under obligations to you for your Confidence in me in Conferring a commition on me, hope you will Excuse me for not Serving as I believe My reasons will be considered Sufficient.

Since I rec^{d} yours I saw Col^{nl} Samuel Smith who informed me that he this day purchased from Sundry for the new Money, and

refused by none that had goods, Suitable, therefore hope that he will be able to purchase what Goods are in town without seising, and if necessary do suppose he will have no objection to seise of such as will not sell, he will be acquainted with them who has the goods. August 23

[W. Smallwood to Governor & Council] August 23

The Bearer Sarah Wise complains of her Son's being enrolled in the Militia before he was of proper Age and that he has been unjustly draughted by the County Lt Col^{o} J. Bealle who being subject to the Civil and not the Military Jurisdiction she is referred to the Governor & Council for Redress

[Deposition of Sarah Wise of P. Geo. County]

23^{d} August 1781. Then came Sarah Wise of Prince George's County before me one of the Justices for Ann Arundel County and made Oath that her Son Thomas Wise was born on the 15th Day of April in the Year of our Lord Seventeen hundred and sixty six.

Sworn before
Wm Hyde

[John Dockery Thompson, Head of Elk, to His Excellency, Thomas Sim Lee, Esqr] August 23

I rec^{d} a Letter from the President of the Council of the 15th Ins^{t} mentioning that I was not Particular in my Description of the men raised in this County under the Late Law—the recruits I mentioned was those who Enrolled themselves to serve untill the 10th day of Decem^{r} next, in Consequence of the Act to raise two Battalions Militia &c—'tho those men had Enrolled themselves since the classing and have rec^{d} money from the Classes, yet it was understood they were Entitled to the Bounty of Twenty Dollars, many of the People of this County have advanced them money and have taken an order on the recruiting Officers Appointed by the said Act—we had it not in our Power to Enroll them before the 16th July the Law came late to hand, and none of the Officers appointed had any money sent up to recruit with—I would beg leave to mention that Cloathing come within the same Discription of the Law—and should the Council think the men not Entitled to the Twenty Dollars Bounty they cannot be Entitled to their Cloathing which will render them totally useless in a very little time—Yesterday Leiut. Sears of Maryland Line march'd from this with fifty two men he has their Enlistments & Enrollments. I shall do everything in my Power to send forward the remainder with a return of the whole. I shall thank you to send me Commissions agreeable to the Inclosed List—they are much wanted

You have Inclosed Captn Scott & his Officers Commission please to Change the name from Willm Scott to John Scott—

August 24 [William Campbell to The Hon. James Brice, Esq. President of the Council.]

Whereas upon a Charge made against Mr John Bullen for Sundry Abuses committed in the Execution of his office, and amongst the rest, for swaping a public Horse with Colo Plater for a Valuable Mare by which he has since got severall Colts and now keeps as a Breeder—he pled to the Charge that the sd Horse was given him by Genl Pulaskie, and produced Mr Thos. Townsend to prove the same as will appear by his Testimony in the Proceedings of the Committee which stands referr'd to the Govr & Council for their Determination thereon. I have therefore thought proper hereby to inform you and the Council that Capt. Segor is now in Town, and will satisfy you the Horse mentioned in the Charge could by no means have been given to Mr Bullen by Genl Pulaskie, as he was a public Horse, and that he himself left him with Mr Bullen to be cured of a Disorder which render'd him unfit for service, and that moreover, long after he left the said Horse with Mr Bullen, he made application for him, or at least to know what had become of him, and Mr Bullen inform'd him that he was still unfit for Service, and likely to remain so, and that he did not believe he would ever be fit for any Service except the Plough. Capt Segor will leave Town To-morrow morning and unless call'd on to Day, his Evidence will be lost. The Committee have reported, as will appear in their Proceedings, that Mr Bullen has exchanged several Horses, particularly the Horse purchased by Mr Calhoon for the Publick this no Doubt is true, but its at least as certain, that Mr Bullen paid a Debt to Capt Charles Williamson with the Horse he procured in exchange for the one just mention'd, and that Gentleman sold him soon afterwards for 10,000 Dollars C. money and with the same purchased a negroe Girl Capt. Williamson will declare the same if call'd on as will appear by their Report.

It appear'd to the Committee that The summer before last Mr Bullen worked the public Horses in his Corn Field, but that he had made Satisfaction by a Return of Service I believe Mr Bullen did not pretend in his Defence to account for every Satisfaction made the Public for working their Horses last Summer and likewise the present—this is a Charge which can be supported by the Testimony of Steven and Burle Boon both Mr Bullen's neighbours—I mean they are in the neighbourhood of the Plantation where he has used the Public Horses.

August 24 Red Book No. 30 Letter 68 [Geo. P. Keeports, Baltimore, to His Excell'y Gov'r Lee.]

Your Letter with the Law and appointment for Procuring Cloathing for the Troops Just Came to hand by Express In Consequence of which I summonsed The Gentlemen Appointed with me to meet; and on a meeting They unanimously Refused to Act. Mr Lemmon has wrote his Reason on the Subject and am Authorized by the others

to Inform your Excell^y that The appointment Does not suit Them they make Numberless Excuses which would be but little Satisfaction to mention, For my own Part I am Ready and Willing to Act in any Department or Character which I have or may be appointed too That will Render my Country service, at The same Time I would wish to mention That If supplied with New Money, I think all that Baltimore affords may be had on Much more Agreeable Terms Then by Seizure. The Inhabitants knowing of a Power Invested in a Person or Persons That will make Seizure If they Do not sell off such Comodities as They have and is Wanting to Equip The Troops will In Preference Take The New money Rather Then Certificates; for which Purpose I wish to have a supply In The mean while I shall Look about to see what Goods are in Town suitable That may be Procured

August 24 Red Book No. 30 Letter 68

[Tho. S. Lee to The Honorable President Brice]

August 24 Red Book No. 26 Letter 19

I was honored with your Letter of this morning. It would give me pleasure to comply with the request of the Honble Council if my situation would admit of it: At present its extremely inconvenient & Doct^r Murray adds, improper for me to go out. My disorder has passed its Crisis & I expect it will be in my power to attend to morrow Morn^g

There is no time to be lost in forming the Cavalry & making the necessary appointm^ts of officers & if the Board enter upon that business this afternoon, I beg leave to recommend Mr S. Chew of Calvert to their attention—he only solicits Cornetcy & Col^o Fitzhugh recommends him as a young gentlemen of family & fortune & highly merits such a Commission

[Pat Sim Smith, Calvert, to Gov. Lee] (Faver. Mr. Duvall)

August 24 Red Book No. 27 Letter 134

I have received your pressing orders for the delivery of the Beef Cattle I had directions to collect, I am very sorry it has not been in my power as yet to procure them, which was owing to the illness of my Family & myself under the flux. I appointed a Deputy for the purpose and he has been also very Ill, and when I expected he had Collected a number found he had got none—we are now engaged in the Business being prevented from beginning sooner in the week by the sitting of our County Court which is not yet over. I much fear we shall make a slow progress, it being very difficult to procure assistants besides This the people are much dissatisfied with the mode of Colection & the low price allowed & I am apprehensive I shall get none except from a few Individuals without a Seizure, indeed, I am informed that some declare they will not suffer a Seizure. However I hope I shall have fifteen or Twenty ready to send up the first of next week and shall then be able to give better Information respecting the others.

August 24
Red Book
No. 27
Letter 134

I flatter myself I shall stand excused for the delay under the circumstances I have related as I could not leave my family in their distressed Situation on any Account

I am under the necessity of Hiring several persons to assist in Collecting & driving the Cattle up, and am at a loss to know how I shall pay them, having no money on hand, Must request therefore that I may be furnished with some by the first opportunity, as I shall be unable to hire men to carry men for me unless those I have already got are paid

August 25
Brown Book
No. 2
Letter 10

[W. Smallwood to the Governor and Council]

The Bearer Mary Watson being destitute of subsistance with a young child, having lost her Husband by an unfortunate accident from one of the pieces of Artillery going of for want of proper spunging on the Day of the Entertainment given by the Citizens is recommended as an object of compassion to the Governor & Council for an Allowance of Provision &c for her Support

August 25

[Eph. Blaine, C. G. P., Philad[a] to His Excellency Governor Lee]

Inclosed is a Letter from M[r] Morris respecting the Supplies of your State, there is an immediate demand for three hundred Barrels of Salt Provisions and four hundred Bbls. of Flour at the Head of Elk for which I have called upon M[r] Hollingsworth and M[r] Calhoon State Agents. Your Excell[y] will please to urge a special Compliance and give farther directions for the purchase of your Specific Supplies the receival of which I will attend to in a very few days.

August 24
[Copy]

[Rob[t] Morris, Office of Finance, to Col. E. Blaine Comm[y] Gen[l] of Purchases]

In a conference with His Excell[y] the Commander in Chief he suggested the propriety of depositing a small Magazine of Provisions at the Head of Elk to answer the Contingent demands which might arrise during the course of the Campaign. The quantity he mention'd is three hundred Barrels of Flour and as many of Salted provisions with twelve H[hds] Rum. I am to request that you will cause the Flour & Salted Provisions to be procured & placed in proper Stores at the Head of Elk from the Specific Supplies due by the States of Delaware & Maryland on the requisitions of Congress of the 25th November 1780.

The Rum I will cause to be delivered you in this City on Acc[t] of the Supplies due from the State and you will take care to have it transported thither.

[Thos. Barclay, Philadelphia, to His Excell'cy Governor Lee.] August 25

Having had the honour of being appointed to attend the Public Commercial business in France, and intending to Embarque for that Kingdom in a few weeks, I take the liberty of making to you and the State of Maryland an offer of any services in my power during my stay in Europe assuring your Excellency that if I Can have an opportunity of being usefull to either it will give me much pleasure The Conducting the Public Supplies from France for the United States Generaly will Come under my Care, but probably your State may have Commands exclusive of those given me by Congress. Shou'd that prove the Case I shall think myself much honour'd in the Execution of them.

[H. Hollingsworth, Head of Elk, to His Excellency, Thomas Sim Lee, Esqr. In Council] August 25 Red Book No. 30 Letter 63

And please your Excellency and Honours Your favour of the 14th (by Capt. Concoa) I am honoured with, as also one hundred pounds of the new Omission which I thank you for, not that it is of any use to me in making payment for executing the business of the State, or your orders but as it gives a Sanction and shews the will for the deed, I must put up with it, and if I possibly can will circulate as Specia, otherways shall return it, I had opened my Subscription and had the promise of several Subscribers to a considerable amount, and was indeavouring to procure the promise of more when the money met with a stroke at Baltimore which struck it up here for the present, which as we lay in a direct line between that place and Philadelphia it cannot recover untill it will pass at one of those places, as soon as that is the Case I shall attempt it again and set an Example by subscribing 500£. I observe your orders regarding flour, and have had near 500 Barrels of Meal bolted over again to fill your order in favour of Mr Smith, without getting one Barrell to pass, and as the flour that now comes is all rather Stale, I am in no expectations of getting any in that way that will do for the Philada Market, (as the new flour is now coming in there) and the demand very flat. I have therefore delivered over to Colo Yeates yesterday one hundred and fifty four Barrels that I received the day before from Mr Charles Blake of Queen Anns County, in pretty good order, though too Stale to run the hazard of bolting over again with a view of serving Mr Smith as experience has now taught me that stale flour ground and put up according to the Act of Assembly will not do for the present Philadela Market (dress it as we will) and the Extra expence attending the bolting it over again and procuring waggons, Casks, nails, Coopers &ca is very considerable not one shilling of which the state money of either old or new omission will pay, I shall therefore in future deliver all the old flour over to the Quarter master or store keeper that he will take, and if he rejects any, that can be

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help'd by bolting it over again shall do it, and any flour that you intend for Mr Smith I take the Liberty of recommending that it be made out of the new wheat (or good old) Manufactured from the Origin for that purpose, I am incouraged To this from the assurances received from the several Commissarys of this shore of great Quantitys, of wheat being ready for collection a copy of one from Mr Blake I send inclosed who I have ordered to collect the wheat nearest the river, to Grainerys and sent it forward to this place, where I will be accountable for the making it into any kind of flour you shall choose to order, at any reasonable time from the date of its arival, provided I am permitted to make sale of as much of the flour as will enable me to defray the expence (which Mr Smith has ordered me to do) and which I am now about to do for expences already created and shall order wheat which lays most convenient to Navigation in Cecil, Kent, and Queen Anns Countys collecting for taxes to be lodged in grainerys on Chester, Sassafras and other places convenient to Navigation to be forwarded to this place, and here Manufactured to compleat your present and future orders (unless ordered other ways) to compleat which I have bespake flour cask, wrote for nails, and am endeavouring to engage Mills with good characters, and never failing streams of water, if cattle are to be pastured or fed here pray inform me, that I may engage pastures and have them kept up, and also bespeak tight casks if any Beef or Pork is to be salted up, as we have suffered much heretofore for want of good Casks. my accounts of wheat from Mr Voorhees are very similar to those from Mr Blake, I'le therefore thank you for further Instructions

P. S. I have requested the Comissarys of Cecil, Kent and Queen Anns, to hasten their Collections of wheat as this is the time to Collect when the people have it

August 25

[John Rudulph, Ma. of Legion, Port Royal to His Excellency Governor Lee] (Hond by Capt. Handy)

Capt Archer had the honor to hand a requisition on your State from the honble Marquis Lafayette for some cavalry. I have to solicite you'l be pleas'd Sir to aid us all you can in the augumentation of the legion, We have had many manifest instances of your State having the legion interests at heart.

I feel myself indebt'd in behalf of the partisan corps to return my most hearty thanks, We are in the utmost distress for want of men cou'd I be furnished with 90 or 100 of your levies or wou'd you be pleased to furnish money & permission to recruit that number in your commonwealth—I should esteem myself honor'd if you'l please to write of Capt. Archers success & what may be my prospects from your State. I beg the liberty of my most respectful compts to your Lady—I have the honor to be Sir with Sentiments of the highest respect

[Jas. Calhoun, Baltimore, to the Council.] (Honoured by Gen[l] Gist) August 26

In my letter to your Hon[ble] Board of the 11th Ins[t] I mentioned my having purchased near thirty Barrels of Pork during the late Alarm, The bearer of this General Gist supplied me with fourteen Barrels on that occasion for which he is yet unpaid Please pay him at the rate of Nine pounds ꝑ Barrel which was the price I agreed to give others. It was purely to serve the Public that the General let me have the Pork at that time as it would have sold very readily for Specie but he saw the necessity we were put to for Meat, and without this supply it would have been impossible to have furnished the Militia on their first coming in

General Gist has frequently applied to me for Spirits and other necessaries which he certainly ought to be supplied with, but it is out of my power to procure them for want of Cash I wish your Honble Board would please point out some mode of having these supplies procured him as I fear he blames me when it is certainly no fault of mine for I would most chearfully purchase those things for him was I able to pay for them

[T. Donellan, Baltimore, to Gov. Lee.] August 26

I send with this Letter, Michael Jones & Bennit Heard both Substitutes to Receive your Excellencys Orders. Inclosed are their Enlistments.

Being inform'd that some have gone of their own Accord to Annapolis without my knowledge & joyn'd the Troops there, I inclose your Excellency a list of the Missing that enquiry may be made who have gone in of them

[Petition of John Taylor, Montgomery County] August 26 [Indorsed: "26 Aug[t] 1781 Pet[n] John Taylor granted."]

To His Excellency the Governor and the Honble Council of the State of Maryland, the Petition of John Taylor most respectfully sheweth.

Whereas your Petitioner hath continued in the above mentioned County, pursuant to the Order of your Excellency and Honors—Your Petitioner now impelled by the Duty he owes to his distressed Wife and Family, who are reduced to the most pitiable Circumstances by Reason of his absence, requests your Excellency and Honors, that he may be permitted to return to St. Mary's County where his Wife resides in Order to settle his Affairs there and remove her into Montgomery County.

This your Petitioner humbly presumes will be granted him, as he hath agreeable to your Desire given Bond with Security to Col[o] Richard Barnes for his Beheavour as a good Citizen. And your Petitioner as in Duty bound will ever Pray.

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[H. Hollingsworth, Head of Elk, to His Excellency Thomas Sim Lee in Council.]

And pleas your Excellency and Honors. Yours of the 19th was yesterday Recd I observe the Contents and as I wrote you the 25th that there was Little or no prospect of making Flower fit for Philada or Foreign market of the meal I am (and have been Receiving) as it was not intended for it originally, and is now the worse of being kept too Long as tis mostly Stale and some of it a little Sour, and I have Rec'd no wheat for a considerable time save a parcel from Colo Dellam of which I wrote you of its being Wet, so as to render it unfitt for flower for Mr Smith, of course unfitt for Mr Riddle, you will observe by my Letter of the 25th that I have ordred the greatest part of the wheat of the present Collection in the adjacent Countys to be sent hear, soon after its arrival you shall have it in Flower of any quallity that is wanted. I am this morning waited on by Mr Morton assistant to Coll Blain with a Coppy of a Letter from Mr Morris to the Colo on the subject of provisions, a Coppy of which is inclosed by which you will observe a demand is made on us for three Hundred Bbls Flower and as much salt provisions to be finish'd Immediately, the Flower I can answer for as near that quantity is ready at the post and adjacent Mills of Flower that will answer this purpose though not fit for Philada or Foreign Market, the salt Provision is not to be had hear, nor do I know of any save 18 Bbls Pork & one of Beef Reported me yesterday, by Mr Jas. Sullivan, which provision with Eighty Bbls Flower Lays at Choptank Bridge, which I am at a Loss how to get remov'd hear, as I have neither money that will pass or Credit but have ordered a small quantity of Flower to Philada to be sold (if it will bare Inspection) to defray the Expence of several necessary Expenditors hear, and if I suckseed in it so as to get the money, shall be able to Execute this or any other order of a small nature; tis Mr Mortons opinion with my own that Cattle must be had to answer the place of salt provisions, Colo Blain wrights Mr Calhoun on the Subject as dose Mr Morris your Excellency and Honors, I therefore wait your Orders which I am impatient to Receive as the Service seems to require an Exertion

P. S. Shall be down with my Deliverys as soon as time will permitt

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[Geo. P. Keeports, Baltimore, to Gov. Lee.]

May It Please Your Excelly Yours of This Day by Express Just Came to hand, The Two Brass Field Peices with The Arms shall be sent Down To Morrow; The Quantity of Musqts Cartridges I've Ready made is 35,000 and about 250lbs wt Lead not made up. I've blank Paper Cartridges made up for our Iron Field Peices but no ammunition is Ready Fix'd. I have This day serch'd The Town Over and Cannot find any Blankets or Cloth suitable for The Purpose Colo Smith Purchased all There was suitable for Soldiers Cloathing Last

week. The Method he Took to Procure The Cloth he Purchased, was he would Bargain with the Sellers & Inform Them That If They Did not sell to him he would Inform me and I would Size Them by which Means he Bo^{t} up all The Cloth fit for Soldiers. The Linnen That is to be had is in the hands of The Property of Foreigners (and cannot be had for New money) Excepting a Triffleing Quantity in the Possession of Retailers which would Count but Triffleing to the Proportion Wanting. I shall make up what Cloth Can be Procured and send it Down To Morrow with The Arms but do not Think The whole will am^{t} to More Then 20 Blankets

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[W. Smallwood, Annapolis, to Gov. Lee.]

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No. 2
Letter 12

There are ninety stand of Arms wanting to compleat the 3^{d} Regiment and six Hundred and fifty for the 4th with Accoutrements which I have no way of obtaining without you wou'd be so obliging to order all those sent from Philadelphia to Baltimore down to this Station.

I think an Express had better go off this morning as Craft may be got at Baltimore for the purpose more readily than here.

We shall want upwards of one hundred Blankets for the 3^{d} and one Hundred and fifty for the Continentals in the 4th which may come by the same conveyance I wou'd recommend that the Field Pieces lately brought to Baltimore also come down with their Ammunition and apparatus. I have order'd the 3^{d} Reg^{t} to march this morning but if you think the arms can be got down this Evening or early to morrow it will be better for the Troops to receive than have them to Waggon to George Town

[Elie Williams, Elizth town, to the Gov. & Council.]

August 27

I have recieved and march'd part of the Washington County Quota of Militia Recruits under the care of William Lewis & John Fisher two of the number who are very careful young men it was out of my power to get an Officer here to march them or Attend myself being obliged to Attend Court, the number March'd is 48 the remaining part of our Quota are raising in the upper part of the County which from its remote Situation has prevented the Officers from having the recruits ready to March at this time, they will be sent on with all possible dispatch.

Arthur Boyes a recruit for during the War enlisted under the Act to procure recruits is also sent.

I expect they will join a party in Frederick Town & will be there put under the Command of a Commissioned Officer. I have inclosed a list of Recruits Draughts & Vagrants & Enlistments & hope they will all appear in good order.

August 28 [T. Donnellan, Baltimore, to His Excellency Thos Sim Lee Esqr]

I send with this Letter, Michael Jones & Bennit Heard both Substitutes to Receive your Excellencys Orders. Inclosed are their Enlistments.

Being inform'd that some have gone of their own Accord to Annapolis without my knowledge & joyn'd the Troops there, I inclose your Excellency a list of the missing that enquiry may be made who have gone in of them

August 28 [John Mills to Honourable The Governor & Council]

I being a draught of this county, obtained leave of Genl Smallwood to return home to try to get a Substitute, but have not yet met with one. I shall return to Anapolis as soon as I get well of boils which I have been afflicted with, which disorders me, and am taking Phisick at present, which occations me to overstay my Furlough tho hope to be up in a short time, I am ready to take The Horses with me if your Honours think proper to Give an Order to Mr Bond for them; provided that the General think Proper as I shall refer him to you with regard to that or any Thing else, I offered to bring the Horses when I brought The drafts but Bond would not deliver them at the Request of Captn Ford, without your order for them, therefore if your honours think proper to give me an order for the Horses I can bring them at Very little Expence There are several of the drafts of this county that are Litering about and dont think of turning out, without Any Reason or Excuse which people I should be glad to see Compeled to their duty. I should be Glad that you would Think worth your while to drop me a line by this oppertunity, to let me know which regiment I am to Join, and when I am wanted, to appear, your Honours will please to appeal to Col Barneses letter by me, for my Recommendation and many Dispatches from Captn Joseph Ford Com^{y} of Purchases for St. Marys, tho I shall take some Recommendations with me as The General was kind Enough to direct me. I have nothing worthy of relating only our Enemys Vessels left the River Patuxent on Sunday last, with three crafts, they Took, some of which I am Enformed was loaded with Tobacco.

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No. 2
Letter 9

[W. Smallwood, Annapolis, to Governor Lee]

I am indebted to Col^{o} Adams for Monies Advanced in furnishing my Table with Provisions and Liquor to the amount of one Hundred and Seventy nine Dollars which as he is now about to march I am called upon to pay I therefore request that I may have an Order for that Sum according to the Resolves of the Assembly.

[Hezekiah Reeder, Port Tobacco, to James Brice, Esqr, President of the Council.] August 28

Yours by Mr Kerrick came to hand with £60. I have sent under the direction of John Varden 31 Beeves I could not get him to drive unless he was allow to deliver his acc^{t} in to you, if you do not chuse to settle it he agrees to take the same Kerrick had, which was fifteen shillings ꝑ day for himself & seven & six pence for each driver you will inform by his return in what way it is to be settled.

[Robt Morris, Office of Finance, Philad^{a} to His Excell^{y} The Governor & Comm^{r} in Chief] August 28 [copy]

Whilst I was at Head Quarters, near Dobbs ferry, the determination was taken by His Excellency the commander in chief, to send a very considerable force against the Enemies Troops under Earl Cornwallis in Virginia; and immediately on my return hither, I did myself the honour to address your Excellency respecting the specific supplies due from the state of Maryland to the United States, upon the requisition of Congress of the 25th Feb^{ry} and 4th Novr 1780: well knowing that the whole Ballance due on those calls of Congress; would now become absolutely necessary to the intended operation; I am very sensible that your Government have upon all occasions executed the demands of Congress, with a decision and vigour which does them honour, and on that account I should decline saying any thing, calculated to stimulate their present exertions, did I not know that every thing depends thereon, Virginia, North & South Carolina, have long subsisted large Armies, and that expense of Provision must come to their Credit. The New England States, New York, New Jersey and Pennsylvania, have supported and must continue to support the Main Army, Pennsylvania will also contribute towards the support of the Southern Army, and her supplies will be directed both ways as circumstances may require. Delaware and Maryland must chiefly be depended on, Virginia and North Carolina will I hope continue to do all they can, but your Excell^{y} must be perfectly sensible that I have not any Funds wherewith to purchase supplies, no State in the Union having hitherto supplied me with money except Pennsylvania; but as the money of that State is, in consequence of the Plans adopted for that purpose, very rapidly rising in Value, it would be improper to call it into circulation at present when it is at the rate of only two for one, thô it has been as low as Seven. The Public Interest would thereby be injured, and indeed I might be charged with defeating the measures I myself had taken, in the very moment when they bid fairest for Success. The Security of your State, the Safety of individuals, and their property, are so immediately connected with the present operations, that I persuade myself your Excell^{y} will receive every aid and support in

August 28 [copy] your exertions, that you can wish, both from Public bodies and individuals. My dependance therefore on receiving the Supplies from your State seems well founded.—

I have the honour to transmit your Excellency herewith, a letter from the Commander in chief on the same Subject which will add weight to my intreaties. I have written to Donaldson Yates Esqr Quarter Master of the States of Maryland and Delaware, to procure immediately as many Craft Vessels suitable for transporting the Troops from the Head of Elk to Virginia as will carry about 7000 Men with the necessary provisions and aparatus.

I have written to Mr Ridley, William Smith Esqr and some others in Baltimore, to assist in procuring these Vessels, and should any application to your Excellency be necessary on this Subject, I perswade myself that the authority of the Government or weight of its influence will be brought in Aid of the Quarter Master's endeavours to procure Shipping—I have also written to Mr Calhoun, to know what part of the Specific supplies he has ready, and what prospects for the remainder, he must bestir himself, as indeed must every person on whom the Procuring of those Articles depends.

While the demands for the Campaign are constantly transmitted to me, and so much depends upon the measures I am continually taking to economize the Public Funds, and facilitate our Military operations, your Excell^y^ will perceive that full early and accurate intelligence upon the various objects of my Department is of the utmost importance—I must therefore reiterate my requests for it. To act from necessity and on the spur of the occasion, is not only the source of Waste and extravagance, but frequently defeats plans otherwise the best concerted, while on the other hand, that timely forecast and early provision which compleat knowledge of circumstances can alone permit of, will save much Public money, and go very far to ensure victory to our Arms.

August 28 [copy] [Robert Morris, Office of Finance, Philadelphia, to James Calhoun.]

By your answer to Mathew Ridley Esqr respecting the Flour, I requested might be delivered to him by the Government of Maryland, I observe that the quality of the Public Flour is not such as will answer the purpose intended, therefore I have taken other Measures for procuring that supply, this Circumstance however will not lessen my demands on your State to which I understand you are the Agent, I have lately written several Letters to his Excellency the Governor informing him that the ballance due to the United States upon the requisition for specific Supplies by Congress from Maryland will now be wanted for the Public Service. I am authorized and directed to collect the ballances due from every State, with some I have already succeeded to very considerable amounts and the Main Army is intirely fed thereby. The State of Maryland is so connected with the

operations that will now demand her supplies and the security of his Citizens so immediately dependant on them that I expect the most chearful acquiescence both on the part of the Government & People. August 28 [copy]

Col° Blaine will have applied to you by my orders for Salted Provisions &c^a but that I may be fully and well informed what dependance to place on your deliveries, I must State to you that by the Act of Congress of the 25th Feb^ry 1780 Maryland was called upon to deliver to the use of the United States 1000 Hogshead of Tobacco 40000 C^t of Beef 200 Tons of Hay 20,000 Barrels of flour 56,162 bushels of Corn, and by the Act of the 4th Novr 1780 Maryland is further called upon to deliver to the use of the United States, 4800 Barrels of Beef 5500^lb Pork 12,000 C^t of Beef 4000 Bushels of Salt 17,007 Gallons of Rum and 20000 Barrels of Flour. What part of these deliveries have been complied with I do not yet know His Excellency the Governor not having yet replied to my Letters on that Subject but being certain there must remain heavy ballances due in every article to the United States I request your immediate information of the quantities you are prepared to deliver of each and the prospect you have of collecting the remainder. The calls for Flour and fresh Beef will be immediate and constant the other articles will also be necessary very soon and I hope you will be every way prepared to answer the pressing demands which will speedily be made upon you

[David Poe, D. Q. M., Balto., to Gov. Lee.] August 28

I am Desired by Col° Yeats to aquaint your Excelency that the Letters herewith sent is by the Particular Request of his Excelency Genl Washington to be forwarded by Day and by night with the Greatest Dispatch and Begs that you would Give the necessary Directions to the Riders to the Southward.

[Sam. Smith, Balt., to Gov. Lee.] August 28 Red Book No. 7 Letter 135

On my return from Anapolis I applied myself to the purchase of Clothing & had the good fortune to meet with very few refusals, I Have Bo^t ab^t sufficient of Cloth & Plush to make 100 suits, Linens cannot be procur'd for New Money Red Cloth for facings there is none, Hats, Shoes, ozn^s will not be sold for New Money, Indeed on a Strict View, I do not find Sufficient Clothing for 500 suits in this place, I can get the Taylors to work for the New Money, but want of scarlet will Stop us. About £150 Specie would purchase sufficient of Scarlet Cloth for the facings. If your Excell^cy Can permit it, I will Supply the Means & deduct it out of my second pay^t for Lots on Whetstone point, perhaps a more expeditious Mode may be appointed by your Board. Mr Lemmon has Ask'd Time to consider the Sale of his Breeches for red Money. I do not like Consideration in these Matters. The Sword Maker will not touch our pay. In fine Sir

August 28 Red Book No. 7 Letter 135 the purchases I have made are from persons who do it thro friendship to the Cause. I shall want about one Thousand of New Money which you'll please forward Imm^{y}.

August 28 Brown Book No. 5 Letter No. 65 [Capt. John Swan, Annapols, to Gov. Lee.]

I am thus far on my way to Phil^{a} by Order of Major Genl Greene for the express purpose of equiping the Southern Cavalry, amongst the wants of the 3^{d} Rg^{t} are 200 Dragoon Horses, there being at this time 250 prime young fellows inlisted for the war, and not more than 60 Horses for want of a Supply, so many men are renderd intirely unfit for duty. It has been suggested that the Horses raised in this State would under a more essential Service by being immediately given out to mount the old veterian traind Soldier than puting undisciplined men upon them under the directions of officers inexperienced in Cavalry duty & Service Should Your Excell^{y} & Council be of this opinion I am convinced You will agree with me that the most urgent wants ought first to be supplied, upon this principle Col^{o} Washington's Regiment will of course present Itself to Your Excellency & Council, not but the other Corps may and are in actual wants, but of such inferior nature from the hard service of that Regiment and the others viz the 1st & 4th doing little or no duty for twelve months past

If Your Excel^{y} will permit me I will give You a State of the Southern Cavalry as has been represented to me, the 1st Reg^{t} White 200 men 220 Horses, no arms accoutrements or cloathing, the 4th Moylan's 100 men, 50 Horses Lieu^{t} Col^{o} Lee's Legion 130 men & Horses with an order from the Executive of Virginia to impress 100 Horses—from this State which I believe literally true I am convinced Your Excell^{y} & Council will appropriate as many of the Horses as will mount the 3^{d} Reg^{t}

August 29 [Jas. Calhoun, Baltimore, to His Excellency, Thomas Sim Lee, Esq.]
(Honoured by J. T. Chase, Esqr)

I yesterday received a letter from the Commissary Genl of the Army of the United States informing me that it was necessary to lay in a small Magazine of about three hundred Barrels of flour and three hundred Barrels of Salt Provisions at the Head of Elk and that Co^{l} Hollingsworth could furnish the flour but had not a pound of Salt Provision and therefore they must look to me for that Article, and if salt Provisions could not be had requested that some Cattle should be immediately sent there and placed in Pastures. As I have neither salt Provision nor Cattle collected here submit it to Your Honble Board whether it would not be more proper to have them collected from the Eastern shore and sent there

[William Clagett, Piscataway, to His Excel^{y} Thos Sim Lee Esqr In Council] (by Mr Lansdale) August 29

I hope by this time you have had time to examine the account sent to you by Captn Wheeler, if it is right and agreeable to Law, I shall esteem it a favour by your given the bearer Charles Lansdale an order for payment, the Goods seized are extended at 5 prices from what I suppose they cost, which price I allowed the Gentlemen who were willing to fix the price with me If you do not think proper to pay the account, I shall be glad you would direct Mr Lansdale to get a certificate.

[Geo. P. Keeports, Baltimore, to Gov. Lee.] August 29 Red Book No. 30 Letter 72

May It Please your Excell^{y} Herewith I've Inclosed you an Invoice of The Field Peices with The ammunition &c sent and One Half of the Arms Receiv^{d} from Phil^{a}. The Other Half of The Musq^{ts} were Delivered Out to the Militia The Last alarm In whose hands They Now are. I have in the Armoury 155 Musq^{ts} with Bayonets and 353 Musq^{ts} without Bayonets, (But have no Cartridge Boxes) The whole of which have been in The Hands of the Militia The last alarm and are Now Overhawling

I have Likewise Inclosed an Invoice of Cloth sent which is all I Could as yet Procure.

[Thos. How Ridgate, Portobacco, to His Excellency Thos Simm Lee Esqr] August 29

On my return home yesterday I found your Letter of the 17th Ins^{t} and have this post wrote my Friends Mess. Peter Whiteside & Co. to treat with Mr Binian for the 26 Bales of Cloth and to write you on the subject. I shall forward Mrs Diggs goods in the course of next week and am with my best respects to your good Lady

[Pat Sim Smith, Calvert, to Gov. Lee.] (By Mr. Bayfield) August 29 Red Book No. 27 Letter 136

George Bayfield and Philip Shepherd have charge of Seventeen Beef Cattle with Orders to Deliver them to John Crysale Commissary at Annapolis—these are all I can send at present—more was collected but have been left on the Road overcome with the Heat. I expect I shall get another drove to send up next week & have engaged those men to carry them.

I have agreed they shall be paid the price that other drivers have & as I am without Cash hope they may have an order on the Treasury for their wages.

I must beg to be furnished with some Cash or I fear I shall not be able to Compleat my collection—as nothing can be done without

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money—a good opportunity will offer to send it by Mr Norris who will be up this week with the Draughts from this County. I shall use the utmost expedition in procuring the remainder of the Cattle but fear as I hinted before I shall meet with some difficulty the people in General are much averse to parting with their Cattle on the Terms prescribed by the Law & some declare they will make a present of their Beef than take Certificates—provided cash could be given I could Immediately procure a number & with great ease otherwise I know I must have a great deal of Trouble but will do the best I can.

August 29

[Joseph Wilkinson, Calv^t County, to Gov. Lee.] (Favour of Mr. Norris)

Inclos^d you will Receive a list of the Select Militia Draughted agreeable to Act of Assembly for that purpose, there is no Officer in the Select, but Mr Joseph Blake who now holds an Ensigns Commission & is Entituled to a Lieutency who I hope you will Appoint Lieut. to the Select, as he turn'd out Volentuier, Capt. Cleland, Grinfield & Williamson has Offered to take the Command of the Company no Ensign has Offered. Mr Norris the Bearer will Deliver such of the Draughts of this County as coud be Collected Tho. very few Agreeable to the Number Draughted, some are Indigent Others Sick & several have Secreted themselves so as not to be taken, I have Ordered them to be taken up as Deserters, which I apprehend is Right tho the Law dont Express it to be done. I wish for your Direction Respecting this matter As I conceive it Absolutely Necessary to Oblige them to go off, if they coud not be taken till within a week of the Expiration of the time

[A memorandum at the end of the list of Militia reads "Norris says Capt Cleland"]

A List of the Select Militia.

Zachariah Hall; Joseph Smith Junr; Joseph Crosby; William Hammond; Elisha Hall; Edward Journey; John Spicknall Junr; John Whiley Junr; Saml Lyles Junr; Richard Hollandshead; Acquilla Ross; Fielder Parker of W^m; Lock Weems; James Gibson Junr; James Brown; George McKoy; Jacob Tilliskey; Benjamin Ireland; Edward Griffin Jun; John Ireland Jun; Francis Dossey Jun; Fielder Parker Junr; John Childs; Abraham Laveale; Denis Sullivant; John Standforth Junr; Clement Skinner; Philip Holt; Joshua Luck Junr; John Breeze; James Jones Taylor; William Chaney; James Owens; Joseph Galloway; Benjamin Everitt; John Wood; William D. Brome; William Stinnett; Benjamin Wilson; Richard Pattison; Jesse Dawkins; William Brinkley; Nathaniel Day; James Stewart; Basil Hellen; James Poole; James Avis; James Heighe Jun; Hezekiah Young; Ensign Joseph Blake.

[Richd Barnes, Leo^{d} Town, to His Excellency Thos Sim Lee Esqr] August 30

This will be delivered you by Mr Wm Belwood an Officer in the Militia who with a party of Men, have retakin a Vessel from the Enemy, with two white men on board, and a Negroe Boy of Mr John Henrys, that says he was takin a few days before by the Enemy. I have sent them to you by Mr Belwood, who is impowered to dispose of the Vessel &c. for the benefit of the men, that took her, agreeable to Law, for which purpose I shall be obliged to you to advise him the proper steps to be takin.

[C. M. Croxall, Balt. to Jeremiah Chase, Esq. Annapolis] (Fav^{d} by Maj Sterrat) August 30

Be assured Mr Chase my not having it in my immediate power to transmit you the gold or Silver has and still continues to give me more real uneasyness than any transaction of my life and could I have had the most distant Idea of being so disappointed in payments should have sufferd any thing before I would have asked the favour or run the risque of sacraficing your good opinion, by not punctually adhereing to my promise, which I now assure you does not proceed for princaple, A few days I hope will put it in my power to make a payment and give ample Satisfaction.

Coll Smith informs me he intends looking into your proposition respecting the Salt mentioned, the nature of the passports &c.

Mr Bowley & myself has some inclination to take half the quantity allow'd by Congress to this State, will you be pleased to write me, with a Copy of the passports, and at the same time let me know if the Council will grant me a permit to go into New York on private business with Mr Robert Alexander the nature of the business I now inclose you, if they will give leave be pleased to send the permission by this conveyance, as on Sunday I am obliged to go for Phil^{a} wch is in my way to New York, or at any rate secure me one half as all the property I have I can turn into flower & other articles wch In that case will demand the Cash & be of great service to me in my first setting out in life.

I think I can serve my Country & self too in this affair

[C. M. Croxall, Baltimore, to the Council.] (fav^{d} by Maj. Sterret) August 30

I take the Liberty of beging leave to pay Mr R. Alexander who is in New York a visit on business respecting moneys advanced to my Brother Captives while a prisoner of War at that place with me on my Acc^{t} and by my desire; and who now refuse me a repayment, for want of their obligation & letters addressed him, which is now in his possession, which sums I was obliged to repay him on my exchange last fall.

August 30 As I have nothing in View prejudicial to the State, but mearly Appreciation for kindnesses done, I flatter myself I shall meet your indulgence, wch if I do be pleased to deliver Mr J. Chase for his speedy conveyance as on Sunday Morn^{g} I leave this for Phil^{a} wch is so much on my way

August 30 [Joseph Dashiell, Wo^{r} to The Hon. Maj. G^{l} Smallwood, Annapolis.] (By Mr. Wm. Handy)

I am Sorry to Inform you that we have bin Very Unsuccessful in apprehending our Draught that kept out of the way, Indeed one thing has retarded it I have bin & still am Very Ill; sum have Come In and some have got substituts, Young men that I am in Grate hopes will Inlist, those shall be sent forward as soon as a sufficieit number get together to make it worth while.

The Bare Mr Wm Handy is a gentlemen that is one of the last Draught, he was draughted with a man that provd to be ruptured, and of Consequence he was Judg'd most proper to go, In consequence of which he got a Substitute, But the man prov'd to be a Soldier Inlisted for the war which I sent up has the last Conveyances, his Name was Edwd Blake, a molatto

Since that Mr Handy has made me acquainted with a wound that he Rec^{d} sum Years ago in one of his Leags, he says weakings it so that he Could not posably hold out to march any distance as he is a gentleman of Varisity I Cant doubt his asertion and altho I dont think I have a right to Discharge him yet I have no doubt you will if He Can satisfy you that he is weak in his Leag

I am so bad at present with a fevour that I keep my Bead, Therefore hope you will Exquese this Imparfect scrible.

August 29 [Levin Handy, Peter Chaille, Robert Done, Wm Allen, James Martin, S. Bishop and Zadok Purnell, Worcester, to The Honble Major Genl Smallwood.]

We have taken the liberty of recommending Mr William Handy to your Honor as a Gentleman—Worthy of any indulgence you may think proper to grant him, he was draughted with a person, who was ruptured, and consequently was adjudged to be the most proper person to March. Mr Handy has had the misfortune to loose a wife, who has left him four small Children; there are to be supported by his industry alone, as he has not a fortune to support them: this under the former draught Law wou'd have been a sufficient excuse for his not marching; but as a further excuse we beg leave to inform your Honor, that some years ago Mr Handy received a bad wound in one of his legs, which he hath since complained of being weak in; & from the information of the Doct^{r} who attended him, we are satisfied he could not compleat one days march Mr Handy is in-

duced to believe from a true representation of his circumstances, he wou'd be excused from marching: this we have taken the liberty to make; and hope the justice of the case will be our excuse for troubling your Honor on the subject. August 29

[Nat: Ramsey to Governor Lee] August 30

Messures Ridley & Pringle now offer Payment for one half of Two Lotts bought at Whetstone Point. As the time for Payment is expired, it is at our Option either to confirm or avoid the Sale, we would wish to regulate our Conduct to suit the Exigencies of the State. The Lotts will very Probably bring more Money at a future Day, 'tho considering the Present scarcity of Specie, we think they are not much below their Value It rests with you to determine, whither the Lands or the Cash is at Present of most Value to the State. The Sum is about 150£ and will act accordingly

[Sogour, Baltimore, to Gov. Lee.] August 30 Red Book No. 28 Letter 24

Extreemely anxious of intering the field again and the marquis having Engaged his word that he would Exchange me as soon as I might get a proper Command—give me leave to intreat your excellency and the honourable the Council for my appointment to the Command of those two troops which are to be Rised in this state.

An opportunity presents now to render those troops the more useful to the country and in the mean time to the officers imploy'd in it.

The legion of Lausun is on his march to the Marquis camp in Virginia; was I appointed to this Command and authorised to enlist men I engage myself with the assistance of the officers to have the two troops Compleated by the latter end of next month—and if by that time acoutrements with some exertions could be got ready we could join the duc de Lausun such junction would be extreemly serviceable both to the country and the duc—it would be a perfect agreable and profitable school for the officers and soldiers of this new corps who might take a right idea of the service in time of war—it could save misunderstanding between Lausun's dragoons and the good inhabitants of the united states and before the enemie it would enable the duc and his troops of making the best of the different intelligence they receive while detached on the lines. This addition of command could but please the duc and this corps consisting chiefly of country born men and acquainted with the language of the country would, in his entreprises on the ennemies be very serviceable to him and extricate him out of the difficult marshy roads and swampy paths of the low counties of Virginia—circumstances of the greater moment to Carry on war to any advantage with light troops.

As I have mention'd to some member of the honourable the Council the marquis de la fayette was to recommend me to the Assembly

August 30 Red Book No. 28 Letter 24 of Maryland for the levee of a corps of lancers, but the Assembly not meeting till october I desir'd the marquis in a letter from Annapolis to make interest for my appointment to this corps who might answer the same purpose and be of a greater service on this occasion than it ever will At Savanah my troop was attach'd to count D'estaing dragoons of defence and condi and found to be of great service to them during that campaign as you may see by the inclos'd certificat of the two Commanders of the french army after counts D'estaing's wound. I wish the certificate could be sent to me back again when perus'd by the council

August 31 [Henry Hooper, Dorset Co^{ty}, to Gov. Lee.] (p^{r} Mr. Muir)

On Monday last two of the Enemies Barges landed a party of Men at Vienna on Nanticoke River and plundered the Inhabitants of the Town and captured five loaded Vessels in that river. We collected a party of Militia as spedily as possible and retook three of the Vessells and by posting some Militia on each Side the river cut off the retreat of one of the Barges, on which the Enemy ran her on shore and deserted her, the Crew made their Escape but we are in possession of the Barge. We took three of the Enemy prisoners, whom I send forward to Annapolis by this conveyance; your Excellency will be pleased to order payment to be made to the Bearer for their passage, I believe a Dollar for each is as much as he expects to receive. Mr Robert Morrain Prise master on board a Schooner taken by the Brigg Susanna Capt Hayman Commander, with two other men after they parted Company with the Brigg, ran the prize Vessell on shore and delivered themselves up to the Militia; Mr Morrain has taken the Oath of Fidelity to this State and now waits on your Excellency for permission to settle in Baltimore Town.

Samuel Hooper 2^{d} Lieu^{t} and Walter Rawley Ensign of Capt Roger A. Hoopers Company, mentioned in a Letter rec^{d} from your Council have both resigned and Col^{o} Dickenson recommended John Steele and Nimrod Newton as proper to succeed to fill up them Vacancys and should be glad to receive these commissions when they can be conveniently made out

NB. We have 2 Negroes in our Jail recover^{d} from the Enemy who say they belong to Mr Sewall at the mouth of Patuxent and Mr Moor in or near Bladensburgh

[August] [The Petition of Daniel O Neill to His Excellency Thom^{s} Simley Esqr Governor & Commander in Chief in & over the State of Maryland &c.]

Petitioner is an Intire Stranger & Quite Deaf, one of the now Exiled Inhabitants of Charles Town, in South Carolina, out of which as well as out of House & Home, he was Burnt by which he lost his all above £10000 Sterling, with what he could Scrape out of the De-

struction of all as well as some Debts Due to him—he took his way [August]
for Philadelphia in hopes to gett rid of his Deafness, and coming Through the State of Virginia he was told the Currency of that State would not pass no further than the Limitts of the State, and advised to purchase Tob° with his Travelling Expences & sell it for Ready Money in this, which he thought he had done, having no Doubt of the Faith & ability of this But being a stranger as aforesaid he was Imposed upon by a French Man who knew better things & offered a high price for his Tobacco if he would take the Inclosed Draught on the State for Payment. Petitioner having no knowledge in State affairs nor no Doubt of the Faith & Good will of the State had Accepted it. But to his ruin & Destruction was soon told by Every one to whom he shewed the Bill that the State would not pay it till (God knows when) Petitioner Therefore Prays your Excellency would be Pleased to put him into some Employment by which he may make a Decent Living till the state can pay him as he is Quite Deaf and no Money to carry him any farther or a Line to the Treasurer on the Back of the Certificate Requesting him if he was oblidged to Borrow as much, to pay the Bill Either in Specie or such Money as will pass in Pennsylvania or procure a Bill on that State for as much, as without Either Petitioner is likely to starve, & for Either he doth & Ever will acknowledge the favor and Most Heartily Pray

NB as all talk is in Vain Please to order y^r ans^r if any to be in Writing

[Petition of Michael Spalding of St. Mary's County To his Excellency Tho. Sim Lee Esqr and the Honourable Gentlemen of the Council] [August]

Sheweth that your Petitioner has had the only Horse that is of any Use for family service, as Riding going to Mill, church &c taken for the Use of the States, and as he understands it was not the intent of the Law to distress those who was unable to find a Horse, which is the Case of your Petitioner.

Your Petitioner therefore humbly craves the favour of the Honourable Gentlemen to take the same into consideration (being the only Horse that is fit to Ride, to Church, Mill &c for his whole family) and Order the same to be Returned, as there is many Horses in the County much fitter for the service can be spared.

Your Petitioner has got several of his Creditable Neighbours to Sign his Petition to shew that he Sets forth the truth, which he hopes will induce the Honourable Gentlemen, to give Orders to Return said Horse, and Your Petitioner as in Duty bound will pray for the success of the States.

Michael Spalding being a near neighbour to me, having applyed to me respecting the inconvenience of sparing a horse of his wch is taken

[August] for the use of the State, I know that he has no other that is suitable for himself or family to ride

Zach[a] Forrest John Smith 1st John Smith Ju[r]

I hereby certify that is to my knowledge many in this County that can much better spare a Horse than Michael Spalding

Jn[o] Reeder

[August] [James Wells Col[o] to His Excellency Thomas Sim Lee Esq[r]]

May it Please Your Excellency I have to Inform and Lay the Complaint of George Payne a Young man who served as A Substitute out of my Battalion Agreeable to an Act of Assembly pased at Anapolis at March Session 1778 the 12 Sextion which Intitles him to a Suit of Cloathes two shirts two p[r] Shoes & Stockings, a hat & a Blankett, Which Articles or the Cloath and Linnen s[d] George Payne prays he may Receive Instead of the Money Seemingly Stipulated By his Colo. and M[r] Zepheniah Turner Audetor General

[August] [N[athaniel] R[amsey] to Governor Lee]

I take the liberty of inclosing a letter to Col[o] Williams which I beg you to forward. I have expected every hour to have received Instructions respecting the sale of whetstonepoint, I am more and more confirmed in the opinion the necessity of altering the terms, and every hour it is delayed has a bad effect, I am convinced that agreeable to the present terms, I shall not be able to sell perhaps one lot, for unless I can obtain two thirds the value, I must stop the sale.

[August] Brown Book No. 2 Letter 11 [W. Smallwood to the Governor and Council.]

The Bearer Thomas Richardson, Michael Clancy, Joseph Blaze, William Cox, William George and John Courts, six exchanged Prisoners from Charles Town, claim the benefit of the advance made to others in a similar situation—for which purpose they wait on the Governor & Council for an Order that the Money may be advanced to M[r] Denny.

[August] [Petition of Mary Wright to Governor Lee]

To his Excellency Thomas Sim Lee Esq[r] Governor In and Over the State of Maryland and the Honnourable The Council.

The Petition of Mary Wright of Charles County Humbly Sheweth. That your Petitioner being a Widdo who has five Children to support being very poor, and that her son Samuel Wright who is all her dependance for Assistance was on the 27th of July last Drafted into the Continental Army Also that he the said Samuel haveing been for some time past in a bad State of health therefore your petition[r] Hopes your Honnou[r] will take her Destresed Condition into Your

consideration and release her son Sam[l] Wright J[r] the said Draft and she as in Duty bound will pray [August]

We the Subscribers being Acquainted with the above petition[r] hereby certify that the facts set fourth in the above petition is the truth.

Jo. H. Harrison
Nathaniel Williams
Caleb Hudson
Burdit Ratliff
Will[m] Davies

Ann Arundel County ss. [August]

To his Excellency the Governor, and his Honourable Council of the State of Maryland [Indorsed "Discharged"]

The Petition of Greenbury Simpson of said County, and State, most Humbly Sheweth—That your Petitioner being Drafted in April Provided a Man in his stead during the War, at a Considerable Cost to himself, and being Drafted again in July and not being Circumstanc'd to procure another Man, having an Aged and helpless Mother, and three Sisters, whose dependance for the Necessaries of Life, are wholly depending on your Petitioner, which if your Petitioner is taken away from them must come to great want: Your Petitioner therefore Prays that his Excellency the Governor, and his Honourable Council will take this the Deplorable and Indigent case into Consideration, in which his Poor Aged Mother and Sisters will be left in, except your Honours please to exempt your Petitioner from the Draft, which as in Duty Bound your Petitioner shall for ever Pray &c. &c.

The truth of which, is Attested by us the Subscribers.

Rich[d] Stringer	William haslup
W Spurrier	Henry Bateman Sen[r]
John Drummond	John Mall of Severn
Joseph White Sen[r]	John Spelan
William Bateman	James [Rowding?]
[ ] James Frost	John Bateman

Greenbury Simpson makes Oath that he was drafted in the 47th Class under the Act to procure Recruits passed October sixteen 1781 and that he procured John Jordan to enlist for the War in his place to whom he gave forty pounds part gold and part paper of the value of Gold that he has a Mother sixty odd years of Age and three sisters the eldest about 14 who has not been able to do any thing for two years past the next to her about 12 and the youngest about 10 years of Age who depend on his Labour only for Support.

James Brice Ald[n]

[J. Travers to Gov. Lee] [August]

I am afraid you will think me very troublesome But hope you will Excuse it I shall be much Oblige to you to inform me whether I am not to be try'd by the Civil Law I was in hopes you wou'd have spoke

[August] for me & have me up to give my Informations & releasd to Appear at a Special in General Court held for the Eastern Shore & hope you will Intercede & remember his Excellency of his promise to me as I am ready & willing to do Every thing in my Power & if I was at home I shou'd be a means of detecting them if you will please to send me an answer the favour shall be gratefully Acknowledged

[August] [Thos Doyle, John Travers, John Anderson To His Excellency Thos. Sim Lee Esqr Govr]

Humbly Sheweth That your Petitioners being now confin'd in Frederick Goal at a great distance from their friends & having no subsistance but what the Goal Allows & not Even that & those that have familys their familys Perishing for want of Necessaries having Nobody to maintain or do for them hope your Excellency will take Our case into your most serious consideration & Order us Back to Annapolis for Immediate Tryal, Yr Excellency we hope will not forget us on the reading of this as some of us Even almost all has not a Shirt to Shift themselves with we hope we shall meet with that Mercy from your Excellency as will reinstate us in Our former Stations that we may become Usefull members to Society if yr Excellency will be pleas'd to Order us down to Annapolis you may rely that we will come down without putting the people to Trouble or County to Expence I hope your Excellency will not infer any thing Else but real Truth from mentioning the above We hope yr Excellency will order or send for us from this place

[August] [Thomas Doyle To His Excellency Thos Sim Lee Esqr Governor & the Honourable Council]

Yr Petitioner Having now been try'd almost Six Weeks & thought myself Acquitted & shoud have been discharged before Hopes yr Excellency & Honours will take it into yr most serious consideration & order my releasement as my family is Suffering much for want of Provision as well as my Self. If yr Excellency & Honours would be pleas'd to Order me my Own I shoud have for a while sufficient to maintain me But I am informed that Cap. Middleton &c has made use of that & many other things & Intends to Expose the rest to Public Sale I hope yr Excellency & Honours will take it into consideration & see by what Authority he can do it after I have recd a Tryal & Acquitted Even had I been found Guilty Capt. Middleton cou'd Never have Claim'd me as a Prize as it woud undoubtedly have been the sole Property of the States Therefore Earnestly request yr Honours will seriously Consider the Above

[Charles Hungerford to the Governor and Council]

September 1
Red Book
No. 28
Letter 4

Worthy Sir This is to acquaint your Excellency, and your Honourable Council, that a Certain John Gaskin of Montgomery County, was brought before me for speaking Inimical &c to the present Cause of America, after hearing the Allegation of these Witness[s] Isaac Lewis, Katharine, his wife, and Ann Nesbet, Could do no other then Commit him to the goal of his County.

[Deposition of Isaac Lewis Sworn before Charles Hungerford]

August 26
Red Book
No. 28
Letter 2

State of Maryland } Aug[t] 26th 1781 Came Isaac Lewis, before the
Montgomery County } Subscriber one of the Justices of said County, and made Oath on the holy Evangelist of Almighty God, that some time last fall this deponant heard John Gaskin, say that he had Received a letter from one old goff of Frederick Town his Countryman, is son had sent him from New York, who was there with the English, and asked the said Lewis to Inroll with him, and told him he should have a patent for any peice of land he would Chose, this deponents Reply to the said gaskin, what the Devil should I do with a patent, the said gaskins answered, the said lewis, we can bore a hole in the sleepers of the house or Sills, and put it in there, and who the Devil can find it and Pluck it up, this deponant then asked the said gaskins, who these Commissioners were, his answer was if he would Inroll, he would let him know, the said lewis answered I will be Damnd, if I do Inroll, this Deponant further sayeth not.

[Deposition of Katharine Lewis before Chas Hungerford, Montgomery County]

August 31
Red Book
No. 28
Letter 3

Came Katharine Lewis, before the subscribers, one of the Justices of said County, and made oath on the holy Evangelist of almighty God, that some time in the first of the year, Eighty one, this Deponant says that John Gaskin, came over to her house, and Related to her, and her husband, that at the time he was a Jailor in Frederick Town, there was Two English officers sent to Frederick goal, and that they Interceded with him, to Carry letters to their Wives in Philadelphia, as they might procure means to Relieve their husbands, and that they were scarce of money, and that he lent them all the money he Could Raise and Render and they was Redeemed and went to New York, and this deponant further sayeth, that the said gaskin said they promised him he should have the money and fourfold Returned him that he had lent them, and when they had got to New York, they sent letters to him, and the money in fourfold and more, and in the letters he received from them, that there was a house and lot ready provided for him, when he pleased to come to it, this deponant further sayeth that some time before this last Christmas, she had been to one of her neighbours, and upon her return home, she

August 31
Red Book
No. 28
Letter 3

called at the house of said gaskins and after a little Discourse he took hold of her hand and kissed the back of it, and said this is my friends Wife, Isaac Lewis, and told her there was no man in America, Could hang him but him, and when she this Deponent Came home, the said gaskins and his Wife Came with her, and he down with his knees to her husband and Repeated the same words to him, this deponant further not sayeth.

August 29
Red Book
No. 28
Letter 1

[Deposition of Ann Nesbet Sworn before Charles Hungerford]

State of Maryland } Augt 29th 1781 Came Ann Nesbet before the
Montgomery County } Subscribers one of the Justices of said County and made oath on the holy Evangelist of almighty God, that she this deponant some time last spring was at the house of a Certain Isaac Lewis, where John Gaskin came and said to Isaac Lewis, you must goe to the battalion, and march from thence to george Town, and the said gaskin, wished the English might get there before them, and the said gaskin told his Wife, that no man Could hang him, but Isaac Lewis—this deponant further sayeth not.

September 1

[Richd Barnes, Leo^{d} Town, to His Excellency Thos Sim Lee Esqr]

I have sent one of the Men you directed to Col^{o} R. H. Lee, the other two bid defiance to a party I sent after them with loaded Guns. I have given further directions to have them apprehended, if they can be found and to fire on them if they shuld refuse to be takin. You have inclosed the names of all the Draughts and Substitutes with an Acco^{t} of the time the Substitutes were passed, which I have been informed is necessary.

September 1

[Richard Curson, Baltimore, to His Excell^{y} Thomas Sim Lee Esqr]

Mr Keeports having receiv'd some Thread, and rectified an Error: I have taken the Liberty to transmit your Excellency my full account, amounting to six hundred and Sixty seven Pounds, Specie.

These Goods are the Property of a Person late of St Eustatius; who has been a Considerable Sufferer by the Capture of that Island, and now pressing for Remittances of same.

I shall therefore much Esteem your Excellencys order for Payment; in Specie, foreign Bills, or if more agreeable an order on your Collector here, at the passing Exchange: as ꝑ agreement you was pleas'd to acquiese in, by your Letter of the 13th April

State of Maryland D^r to Richard Curson for the following deliver'd George Keeports ꝑ the order of his Excellency Thomas Sim Lee Esqr viz. September 1

6 pieces Yorkshire Cloth	cont^g	246	Ells.	@ 14 vrs ꝑs	430..	4..—
1 piece ditto blue ditto	d°	40	d°	@ 16 vrs	80..—	..—
1 piece ditto Scarlet ditto	d°	19	d°	@ 22 vrs	52..	2..—
1 piece ditto blue ditto	d°	41	d°	@ 16 vrs	82..—	..—
1 piece ditto d° ditto	d°	38	d°	@ 18 vrs	85..	4..—
1 piece ditto Scarlet ditto	d°	20	d°	@ 24 vrs	60..—	..—
1 piece ditto blue ditto	d°	36	d°	@ 16 vrs	72..—	..—
45 Bristol duffl'd Blanketts				@ p^t 2, 4rs.	112..	4..—
2 pieces Ticklenburg cont^g	350 Ells			@ 8 Stivres	58..	2.. 4
2 pieces oznbrigs d°	79					
	87	166 G K Ells is 276⅔ amo^t			34..	4.. 4
Dutch Ells @ 6 Stivres						
71¾ dutch Ells of Ticklenburg a defference in the 2 pieces undercharg'd being remeasur'd @ 8 Stivres					11..	7.. 4
10^lbs Lt white Thread N° 50				@ 20 vrs	25..—	..—
10 lt ditto ditto N° 60				@ 22 vrs	27..	4..—
					1132..	1..—
Advance 100 ꝑ C^t					1132..	1..—
					2264..	2..—

By an allowance of 8 dutch Ells Ticklen^g
@ 8 Stivres ꝑ^s 1..2.. 4
By a reserve of 8½ Dutch Ells blue Cloth
" " " @ 8 Vrs..... 19.. 1..—

	20.. 3.. 4	
" " " @ 100 ꝑ C^t	20.. 3.. 4	
		40.. 7.. 2
	Pieces of 8,	2223.. 2.. 4
Pieces 2223..2..4 redu'd into Specie @ 6/		£. 667.. .. ..

Baltimore Aug 31st 1781

Receiv'd the within Specified Goods for the use of the State of Maryland by order of his Exc^y Thomas Sim Lee Esqr amounting to Six hundred, and Sixty Seven Pounds, Specie which acco^t I have duly examin'd and find the same free of Error.

Witness my hand
Geo. P. Keeport

[H. Hollingsworth, Head of Elk, to His Excellency Thomas Sim Lee, Esqr, in Council.] September 1 Red Book No. 30 Letter 35

And Please your Excell^y and Honours In my last I acquainted you of the requisition of the Financier General, which I was Indeavouring to comply with which I have done in part having more

September 1
Red Book
No. 30
Letter 35

flour here then will answer that demand; and find that seventy Barrels of the Pork sent to Duck Creek last May, are there yet, Mr Morton who went to view it informs me tis good, I have therefore requested Colo Yeates to send Teams for it which he is about to do and eighteen Barrels of Pork, one of Beef and one of Lard, I have sent a Vessell to Choptank for (with orders to bring the flour also) this I did rather by water than by land, as all our Teams will be wanted here, and as those Troops are to go from here by water, if the provisions should not come in time to this place, they will meet the Troops on their way down, in which case, I have ordered the Captain to deliver them to the Commissary attending the Troops, or to Mr Crisall at your City: and in order to furnish the Troops while they are here (which must be done with fresh provisions) have called on Mr Williams, Mr Voorhees, Mr Blake, Bruff and Mr Casson Commissarys for Cecil, Kent, Queen Anns, Talbot and Caroline Countys, for all the assistance they can give in salt provisions, and Cattle on the Hoof, (Mr Williams promises some here to day) I have also called on the Commissioners of this County who I expect will meet to day on the occasion and render their assistance, by which time I flattered myself of your direction, and assistance, which I shall be happy to receive, In regard to your requisition in favour of Mr Ridley, from the reports I have from other Countys, and from what I have observed in this, the requisition may be readily complyed with (at a future day,) there being large quantitys of good wheat collected, and Collecting, on State account, this wheat is now chiefly collected into Mills that have neither water or Casks, which is the case with almost all the Mills in my district, (at this season of the year when the streams are Low and the Coopers have been out harvesting) I have had applications from Kent, Caroline & Cecil for Casks, tis well known that empty Cask will not bare carriage any distance, as the price of carriage would be equal to the Casks, but when tis considered that those same Casks (if sent) must come back when filled with an additional Expence, and then be nail'd and Coopered and the flour not so good as could be wished, I say when this is considered it must make every one that see it unhappy, In a Mill on the lower side of this County (in a cercuit I took the other day in quest of provision) I saw about Seven hundred Bushells of wheat, about two hundred was old, and the wheat Fly very busy in it (though it had been good) about five hundred good new wheat laying on the same floor, and in the same heap with the old, both of which must be spoiled in a short time by the fly, I asked the Miller why it was not ground into flour who told me they had not Casks, or water, I then asked him how many Barrels he could make a week if he had Casks, he told me not more then twenty, Mr Williams being present I requested that the wheat should be sent by water to me, (the Mill being not more then a Mile from Navigable) which Mr Williams seemed

pleased with though could not order as the Commissioners had ordered it there, this I shall lay before the Commissioners this day if they meet and indeavour to have orders to remove it, and in that case shall send a Vessell for it and any other wheat that lay contigious. This case convinces me there is many more parcels of wheat in the similar situation, which cannot be manufactured on the Easte side of Elk River, I have therefore wrote to the several Comm^{ys} of Kent, Queen Anns, Talbot, Caroline and Dorset Countys, to have any wheat of the present collection that cant be laid into good Mills with streams of water sufficient to grind lodg'd so; but such as cannot, and is contiguous to the stores on the waters on Sasafras, Chester or high up on Choptank Rivers, to be lodged in such stores, and to send it to me here, or to give me information of it, and I'le send Craft for it, I am not Insensible that the Censorious may call this partiallity, and suspect that I want everything done in my own Neighbourhood, if any such censure should arise, I shall impute it to their Ignorance of the situation and circumstance of things; and can only say in my Justification, that if they (or any one else) can get the wheat properly Manufactured in any other part of the Eastern shore, (at this season) tis more then I can, I am now closeing my accounts of Deliverys for the last Collection which with a General return of receivals shall be sent you, the boulting it over and delivering some at Philad^{a} some at Christian, and some here, which tis difficult to collect the receipts for, is the cause of the delay at present, pray Excuse the length of this letter. I have so many things to touch on often Intercepted and the mind not concise at best, you have the will for the deed of your Excellency & Honours Most Obed^{t} Hble Ser^{t}

September 1
Red Book No. 30
Letter 35

[Jas. Calhoun, Baltimore, to His Excellency Thomas S. Lee] September 2
(Honoured by Col^{o} Smith)

I received yours of the 30th Ult^{o} with £250 of the new Emission which doth not yet pass current here especially with such people as this will be wanted for, I shall do every thing in my power to forward the collecting of Cattle & flour to this place & George Town but unless the County Commissaries will exert themselves in a very particular manner on this occasion we will fail in procuring the number of Cattle required. Making seisures is so very disagreeable a business that few Men can be prevailed on to undertake it, Mr Griffith the Commissary of this County, I fear will not although I have done everything in my power to persuade him of the necessity thereof and at length have insisted that he will either go immediately about it or inform you thereof that some other person may be appointed in his stead. He says and I believe with too much truth that it will require a number of Persons to assist him in the business which is so disagreeable that he can get none to engage in it especially for the new Money I fear Mr Griffith will not be the only Commissary in this

September 2 situation. And as to the carriage of the flour I am persuaded it cannot be got down expeditiously without impressing Teams I have wrote in the pressing manner to the different Commissaries on this Subject, and would willingly take a ride to the Several Counties but am apprehensive my absence at this time would be of worse consequence than all the Service I could do by going would compensate for, however if you think otherwise & will inform me thereof shall set out immediately

September 2
Red Book
No. 30
Letter 37

[Geo. P. Keeports, Baltimore, to Gov. Lee.] (Fav^{d} by Mr Yeldell)

May It Please Your Excell^{y} In Closed is an Invoice of Arms sent with The whole of The Cartridge Boxes which are not in the Hands of The Militia, Cartridge Boxes were much wanting for The Militia in The Last Alarm as There is not Near The Compliment of Cartridge Boxes There is of Musq^{t}

Col^{o} Smith and Myself shall make up between 80 & 90 blank^{ts} by Tuesday Next which is The whole of the Stuff that Can at Present be Procured in This Town That is by any means Suitable for The Purpose. Mr Richd Lemmon has 4 or 5 Peices of Kersey which I was in Bargain with him for but he asking me 7/6 p^{r} yard The week before I was Ordered to Purchase and 12/6 p^{r} yard when I applied to him to Purchase for The New Ems^{n} I Determined to make a Seizure of it but was Prevented by his secreting The Cloth from me, I wish to be Instructed what Method I shall Pursue to make him or any other in a Similar Matter Produce any Goods that are or may be secreeted

September 2
Red Book
No. 30
Letter 34

Invoice of Musq^{ts} Bayonets and Cartridge Boxes Sent to Annapolis p^{r} Thomas Yeldels Boat Balt^{o} Septr 2^{d} 1781 by George P. Keeports 11 Chests Arms

N° 1	23 Musq^{ts}	23 Bay^{ts}	
2	25	25	
3	28	28	
4	31	29	
5	27	27	
6	28	28	
7	29	18	
8	26	26	no Bayonets
9	28	28	no Bayonets
10	27	27	no Bayonets
11	28	28	no Bayonets
	300 Musq^{t}	287 Bay^{ts}	

Loose 265 Cartridge Boxes.

[Thos Nelson Jr, Richmond, to Governor Lee] September 2

On the 31st of August the French Fleet commanded by the Count De Grasse consisting of 28 Ships of the Line & six Frigates with three thousand Land Forces, arrived in Chesapeake Bay. They have made such Dispositions as will prevent the British Army, now at York, from crossing James River, should they attempt to escape to the Southward; & I trust we shall, in Conjunction with the French Troops, be able to oppose to them such a Force as will keep them from penetrating westerly in order to cross the Country higher up. In all human Probability Lord Cornwallis has nearly finished his Career, & will shortly receive his Reward.

We are making the greatest Exertions to procure abundant & permanent Supplies of Provisions for the Fleet of our Allies & our combined Forces; & although our Prospects are good, yet so anxious am I that there shall be no Deficiency on this Score, I wish us to have some other Dependence than the Supplies of this State, Flour is an Article which we may probably most want, particularly for the present; & it is one with which your State, I imagine, can easily & plentifully furnish us. I would therefore take the Liberty of recommending it to your Consideration whether it will not be advisable to have considerable Quantities of it immediately sent down the Bay.

[J. Nicholson, Jr., Queen Anne County, to Gov. Lee.] September 2

Mrs Gordon very lately received a Letter from Mr Gordon from New York, in which he communicates to her his Intention to go this Fall to Scotland, & take with him two of his Chillren, for which Purpose and to settle his Business upon the Continent, he strongly urges his wife to meet him at Elizabeth Town.

Permit me in Company with some others of Mrs Gordons Friends to solicit the Favor of your Excellcy and your Honorable Council, to grant her this permission.

Mr Gordons Letter to his wife accompanies this, to Show to your Excellency and your Honble Council that by making this request she is only actuated by Motives of Interest for the welfare & Happiness of a large & in a great measure helpless Family of Children.

[Thomas Sprigg, Washington County, to the Council.] September 3
Red Book No. 27 Letter 137

Yours of the 3d August respectg the recruits (in which their very Erronius depositions were Inclosed) did not come to hand until Yesterday, I was by no means Ignorant of the Power given me by the Law which your honrs were please to recite, and can assure you that due Attention has always been paid to every Just compt made by any recruit to me from this Coty and the Strictest Justice done them, as far as came within my knowledge and Power nor had any of them the smallest reason to complain of a deficiency in their Bounty except

September 3
Red Book
No. 27
Letter 137

William Harrison his Class was upwards of £3. specie short when he marched which I had Collected since, and sent to him by Lieut^{nt} Foster, but in the case of Matthews and Price your hon^{rs} are Totally misinformed, the truth is as follows, Mr Prather brot them to me to be pass'd one for his and the Other for Mr Friends Class, said he had promis'd to pay each of them £15 Spetie or the Exc^{ye} in Paper which Sum they were well pleas'd with, until some of the rec^{ts} told them that something more had been given, they then argued sometime and insisted on their bounty being rais'd, at length they props^{d} leaving the matter to me which Mr Prather agreed to, they said they had been detain'd upon their own exp^{s} two or Three days after their Inlist^{g} it not being conv^{t} to Mr Prather to come down, that consideration and the desire I had to make them satisf^{d} induced me to determine that he should pay them 1000 dol^{s} more than his Agreem^{t} they both app^{d} well Satisfied with and repeatedly thank'd me for my determination nor did either of them Claim more while in Washington, some time before they March'd Price made a Complaint that Mr Prather had made a Mistake in Counting the Paper Money and that he could not prevail on him to rectify it. I imm^{y} wrote to and inform'd him of the charge and requested him to settle with the rec^{t} or that I would Issue a Warrant and Compel him so to do, Mr Prather soon after produc'd several depositions and Certificates from respectable persons, that they were present at their settlem^{t} and that they had counted the Money and Mr Prather had paid him a few dol^{s} more than his due. Old Col^{o} Crisap inform'd me that he was also present at the Settl^{s} and that he rec^{d} a few dol^{s} over, and that the fellow he knew to be an infamous rascal, and from the facts here Stated I have no doubt but Your hon^{rs} will be convinc'd that they are both so.

September 3
Red Book
No. 27
Letter 57

[Stephen Steward, West River, to the Council.]

I only Rec^{d} yours of the 9th of August yesterday or shuld Replyed long ago how Ever its time Enuf to give a bill for the Cabels and Cording for the Galle I am Building fore or five munths Hence at the Rait I have gon on heather to the Decking Plank and Pine Plank for hir uper works is now lying In the Eastern shore some time Redy the holders of it has ben with me this Day and will not Deliver it without the Hard muny I have Paid away a Considerable som of hard muny for Provitions and many other artichels for the Galle and it will not sut me to Pay any more without you will Return it to me or som thing that I can Rais the Hard muny out of I find I shall be a very Grat loser. In the End If I advance hard muny and take Paper for it I Can git no kind of provation but for hard muny but at an advance Price the Butchers are now ofring 6^{d} p^{r} C^{t} Red muny for Beef when In Realety it is not worth more then 3^{d} as I am Determined not to Depresheat the muny In Paying an advance I sopose I shall be obligd to stop In less then a month for want of Provitions as the salt provition and what fresh of my own I can spare will be out

In that time when I agreed to Build this Galle I understood I was to have muny or somthing Put Into my hand to have Raisd muny with to have firnesh[t] Every Metearel for the Galle for which I was to have Drawn a Commition from for my trubell or I am Shour I would not have undertaken hir for the Paltrey Commition of Building the Hull I was to have the sam as when I was agent to the Counsell of Safty and afterwards to the first Governor and Counsel and I still Expect it as I think from what littel knowlidg I have of Marein afairs I can save the State more then my Commition I have not bin able to go from home this two weeks from a hurt I got In my legg as soon as I Can Conveniently Ride I will wait on you

September 3
Red Book No. 27
Letter 57

[Chris[r] Birckhead, to His Excellency Thomas Sim Lee Esq[r]] (p[r] M[r] Benson)

September 4

I now send a few more of the Draughts by M[r] Perry Benson, a list of whom he will deliver, the remainder I shall send as fast as they can be apprehended.

You will please to pay M[r] Benson for his Trouble and also the expence of the Boat hire, as I have no money to pay them.

[John Dean, Major 4th M. R[t], Chester Town, to His Excellency the Gov[r] & the Hon[ble] Council]

September 4

The Order for seventeen Pounds for deficiency of Stores you were pleased to give me last May, I have mislaid, you will please to renew it, and also an Order for some more Money, you will also please to give me an Order for State Stores. I have been confined to my bed almost three months, and am at Present in a very poor state of health, and in great need of Money and Stores at this place, the bearer Capt[n] Reid will give rec[ts] in my name, and can inform you fully of my distressed situation

[M. Gist, Baltimore, to Gov. Lee.]

September 4
Red Book No. 30
Letter 58
[Copy]

I have the Pleasure to inform you that a Cutter of 18 Guns has this moment arrived here with Dispatches from Count De Grass for his Excellency General Washington.

Captain Arne D[e] La Laume Commander of the Cutter informs that the French Fleet consisting of 28 Sail of the Line arrived in our Bay the 26th ult[o] with 3000 Land Forces which are landed to form a junction with the Marquis de la Fayette. Part of the Fleet have blocked up the British Vessels in York River—they have taken the Loyalist of 22 Guns in York River & on their way to the Cape took a Packett from Charles Town with Lord Rawdon on board. This Gentlemen is now a Prisoner with the Fleet at York River. The main part of the Fleet lays between the Middle Ground & Cape Henry

I do myself the Honor to enclose you a List of the Fleet of great & Good Allies now in the Bay.

September 4
Red Book
No. 30
Letter 58

List of the Ships which compose this Fleet

1—110 Guns, 3—84 Guns, 19—74 Guns, 4 64 Guns, 1—50 Guns, 2—44 Frigates, 2—32 Frigates, 1 68 Cutter.

September 4

[William McBryde, To His Excellency Thos S. Lee Esqr]

I Rece^d yours Dated August 30th & therewith £100 New Emission, you may Rely on my doing every thing in my Power with the utmost Dispatch, for the Publick Interest, as farr as that Small Sum will go, tho' am afraid & almost Certain not near that Quantity Can be got in this County, of Cattle fitt for Beef & Salt Provision is now Pretty scare.

I must Confess there is Two things Lately happened that a Good Deal Surprizes me (& I hope your Goodness will Excuse my asking the Reason, & Send it me by first oppertunity. Especially when I Declare on my honour, it is with no other View but to Clear up my own Character, which has been Maliciously & falsly injured,) Viz^t £500, Sent Coll^o Chaillie Com. Genl to Purchase Salt Provisions & £500 Sent to this County for Same use, but not sent to the Com: Likewise the Letter sent me Directed to me as the Acting Com: from this it appears you Expected I was Turn'd out, which I hope you'll not do, Till I know for why, & have an opp^y of Showing the World I am innocent, of the Charge, being Guilty of nothing amiss in that Station that I ever was Sencible of, I hope you will Excuse this freedom & Oblige me with an answer, & as Soon as I know how many Cattle, & how much Pork I Can get, will wait on you myself & Bring my old Acc^ts to Settle, I have now 18 Barrells Salt Pork by me, & no more Provision of any kind, only a few Beeves,

September 4
Red Book
No. 30
Letter 38

[Geo. P. Keeports, Baltimore, to Gov. Lee.]

May It Please your Excel^cy I have Just Rec^d yours by Express and shall Exert my Self To send Down to morrow all my Purchases which will amount to about 130 Good Blankets made of Cloth Collected in This Town. I am much Afraid of Getting Camp Kettles made up in a Hurry The Workmen in Town will not work for New money. There is no Shoes in Town at Present but shall Exert my self to Procure Them as soon as Possible

September 4

[Chris^r Birckhead Lieu^t T[albot] County To Wm Whitely Esqr Lieu^t of Caroline County]

The bearer hereof Allemby Millington at this time and has been for these several years past an enroll'd Militia man in this County; I have also a Certificate from his Captain that he attends constantly at the Muster field and does his duty as a good Soldier. He has also been class'd and stood all the draughts in the County

[Indorsed "Discharged from the Draught in Caroline County 19th Septr 1781 by Govr & Council"]

[Richd Smith to His Excel^{cys} Thos Sim Lee, Esqr] September 4

The Bearer Mr Francis Darnell has an inclination to enter into the Army, his friends will be much obligd to you for y^{r} interest in assisting him to an Ensigns Commission.

[W. Smallwood, Annapolis to Governor Lee] September 5
Brown Book
No. 2
Letter 8

I shall be glad you will give an Order for Cap^{n} Lynn to receive what specie is now in the Treasury for thirteen Officers of the fourth Regiment—now about to march.

[Jas. Calhoun, Com^{y} Gen. W. Shore, Baltimore, to the Gov. & Council.] September 5

I wrote to you the 3^{d} Ins^{t} to which refer Notwithstanding the very great demand that will be on us in a few days for Provisions I fear the County Commissaries are not making the necessary collection of Cattle Mr Griffith has done nothing in that business yet and says it is not in his power to procure them by Seizure without a number of people to assist him. I cannot devise any mode of carrying this business into effect without Your ordering some part of the Militia on this Service.

There will be near 3000 Horse & Oxen through here in a few days including the French, which will consume a very large quantity of Forage and it is not in my power to procure a sufficiency for new money. It was with great difficulty I got 200 Bushels of Corn this morning for that money and that by threatning to seize unless the owner would consent to part with it on those terms. I have wrote to Mr Beall at George Town to lay in a supply of forage there but cannot say whether he will be able to effect it please forward him some Money for that purpose what I have would go a very little way if it passed freely

[Joseph Dashiell, Worcester County to Gov. Lee.] September 5

I am sorry to Inform you that but very few of Those Draughts & Substitutes that Deserted are yet apprehended. So few that we have thought it not worth while to send them except we Can git more, You will see by my returns by Capt McClaster who Carried up the men from heare that among the Inlistment their is a Ceartin Thomas Dickenson Inlisted During the war, this young man was sick when our other men marched, since he has got well & the Sheriff of Somerset has taken him into Custody & I am informed he is Indighted for Joining the Enemy sum time past. That he was with the Enemy I have no doubt But I verily believe it was to please a Vile Tory father that he went at all. I submit it to your Excellency, whether an Noli proseque had not better Isshuw that we may have the use of the man, he is a very young man and I am Certain they have One hundred

September 5 more proper Objects in Somerset, then him to make Examples of. I have had a very severe fit of Illness as I Believe I should have had more of Our Deserters taken up I am at present much Better and shall use my utmost endeavours to apprehend & send forward such as Can be had.

September 5 [Hezekiah Reeder, Port Tobacco, to the Council.]

I have sent by Edward Kerrick 44 Beeves the remainder of the first order has been lost in this County shall have them collected and sent with the others to George Town you will furnish me with Cash to compleat your last order. I have about 5 or 600 Bushels of old wheat on hand which is getting full of the fly, should be glad you will direct where it is to be sent if you think of sending it away shall be in want of Cash to pay the expence

September 5 [Draughted men of Cecil County, Citty of Anapolis, To his Excellency Thomas Sim Lee Esqr Governor and Commander in Chief in and over said State and to the Honourable the Members of the Privy Council]

Your Petitioners one and all having been assured by Col^o Thomson Lieut: for said County that there is an act passd intituling each of us to receive 20 Dollars & a suit of Cloaths depending upon said assurance your Petitioners left their Cloaths behind; and are now utterly incapable of serving their country though if Justice is done them freely willing to perform theirs, In hopes that your Excell^y and the Honble the members of your Privy Council will take our Case into your Consideration Your Petitionrs as in Duty Bound Shall ever pray &c.

Aaron Latham;
Dennis [Lormergaz?];
George Gwynn:
[Peter C. Scott?]
Hartley Sappington;
Jonathan Richardson;
William Ford;
Joseph Polson;
James Hill;
Benjamin [Macolan?];
Jese [McDowel?];
James Redman;
Jeremiah Connelly;
Mathew Doren;
Benjamin Reed;
John Neilson;
Benjamin Ford;
Thomas Fitsimmons;
John Newby;
Patrick Shills;
Nathaniel Stormont;
Francis Shills;
Jonathan Hartshorn;
Joseph Mills;
Matthew McConnel;
John Smallwood;
Geo. Campbell, Serg^t;
Humphrey Pugh Serg^t;
Saml Lankester.

[Peter Chaille, Worcester County, to His Excellency, Thomas Sim Lee.] September 6

I Rec^d your Letter dated in Council August 30. 1781 respecting the Purchase of Cattle Pork &^ca I shall set out this morning on the Business but fear the number of Cattle from this County is two Large however will Collect the number if in My Power, I have Collected seven draught horses and four Light horse, as horses is very scarce in this County that are fit for Light horse, fear I shall not make up the number of that kind, I have purchased 338½ yards of Cloath, as ꝑ Certificate inclosed

Worcester County to wit

I hereby Certify that I have taken into my Possession in Virtue of the Act of Assembly entitled an Act to procure an immediate supply of Cloathing and Flesh Provisions for the Troops and a sufficient number of horses for Light hors and Carriage, the Articles expressed in the Margin the Property of Mr Thomas Usher of Baltimore Town, and the Bearer hereof is entitled to receive from the State of Maryland the price with six per cent interest thereon, According to the above said Act witness My hand this 15 day of August 1781

Peter Chaille, Commissary

Piece	Quallity	Yard	Price	Total
9	Frize	338½	7/6	126..18:9

[Dan'l Jenifer, Portobacco, to Gov. Lee.] (By Mr. Luckett) September 6 Red Book No. 29 Letter 55

By Mr Luckett your Ex^y and the Council will receive the Goods purchased of Jesse Taylor. They would have been sent much sooner— But I have been daily expecting a new Waggon and Geers of Wm Leigh who has repeatly promised me in leiu of an horse and for which I have his missive, and which he ought to be compelled to furnish. However as I am tired with waiting I have sent the Goods in a Cart. I went over to Virginia to view the Rest of Taylor's Goods—The Duffels which were the principal objects—turned out Course narrow frize and wou'd by no means answer for Blankets, his Linnens are Good as are many other Articles, He wou'd not take the price to which I was Limitted but wou'd have taken what they Cost him allowing for his expense of Cartage &c—I purchased of Mr James Dick last fall 3½ Tonns of Barr Iron payable in Corn in the Course of this year at 20/ a Bar^l I was to send the Corn to Joppa to be delivered there a long side the Vessel and he was to put the Iron on board, both were to be at my Risque, But I was not com-

September 6
Red Book
No. 29
Letter 55

pelled to send the Corn until the Enemy was pretty clear of the Bay. About a Week agoe I thought it a good time to Risque and accordingly agreed with Mr Richard Mason to Transport the Corn and fetch the Iron, and was not a Little surprised to be informed by Mr Dick that the Comrs had seized my Iron with the Rest, notwithstanding Mr Skinner informed them of my Contract. I hope that your Excy and the Council will give orders for the delivery of at least the 3½ Tonns (I say at least as I was not confined to 3½ Tonns, But was to have as much more as I sent Corn to pay for) and that you will also inform me when I am to send the Corn. As the Iron was British property—I suppose the Corn to pay for it is also British property—I mentioned this matter to Mr West when last at Annapolis and requested that he wou'd mention the matter to the Governor & Council the loss of the Iron will be to me, a great disappointment as my Smiths are almost Idle for want of it. Many of the Horses want shoeing, wou'd it not be well to have them shod?

Mr Ridgate hath been with me for pay for his hats I will thank your Excy for the Price you and the Council have annexed to them & the manner in which they are to be paid for.

September 6

[Jas Murray, to Colo. Brice]

I have examined the wound which Mr Handy received in his leg & am of opinion that it renders him incapable of Military Duty.

September 8

[Chas. Blake, Corsica to His Ex: Thos S: Lee Esqr]

It is with the utmost Satisfaction I inform yr Ex: that the 350 Cattle will be obtain'd in a very few days, I now have upwards of 250 and have not been over one half of the Coty; the People overjoyed at the arrival of our Allies have in many places desir'd me to call and take any number I thought they could possibly spare; I have not yett Seized one and hope I shall not. The Cattle on Chews and Kent Islands I shall leave there till farther orders, the others I shall leave in those pastures ready. Those on Kent and Chews may Perhaps be order'd off by water, if not they shall be ready to go when order'd. If yr Ex: should order any to be Slaughter'd please to say what is to be done with the 5th Qr I have found no Salt provisions yet.

September 8
Brown Book
No. 3
Letter 14

[M. Gist, Baltimore, to Gov. Lee]

Colo Smith has informed me that he cannot furnish the Spirit and Rum requested by the Council for want of money to purchase it.

The red money advanced me when left at Annapolis will not procure me any kind of necessaries.

Mr Calhoun offers to procure Spirit &c if authorized to dispose of flour for Cash to pay for it.

[M. Gist, Baltimore, to Gov. Lee.] (Pr favor Capt. Buchanan) September 8
Brown Book No. 3 Letter 18

I have just received a letter from His Excellency General Washington with dispatches from the Count D^e^ Grasse, requesting them to be forwarded with all possible expedition, either by a Dispatch Boat, or by Land, as might be thought most eligible.

As we have no certain information that any of the Enemies Vessels are above York River, I have judged it expedient to send them in care of Captain James Buchanan, by water; and have taken the Plater for that purpose

Captain Buchanan waits on your Excellency for further directions, and if judged unsafe for him to proceed to the Fleet, he will deliver you the dispatches to be forwarded by land, in either case, I need not mention the necessity of expediting them

[J. H. Stone, Annapolis to Mr. Hezekiah Reeder, Charles County] September 8

I have yours of the 5th Instant, as Mr Kerrick is a very good & safe driver, I think he is entitled to a greater allowance than common drivers, & perhaps without him the service might be impeded, you had I think best continue to employ him, the highest Price we have given is 20/ ꝑ Day, which I think you might pay Mr Kerrick, but this rests altogether with yourself. You are not to forward any more cattle to this place, what you now collect (as you will observe by the Go. & Councils Letter, are to be forwarded without delay to George Town on Potowmack—they sent you the order with £500 by Lansdale, to pay for the Cattle you are to collect & when you want more money, you will apply for it. As the whole Cattle collected by you are to be paid for.

You will either have the wheat immediately manufactured into flour or send it without delay to George Town to be delivered to Thomas Richardson or Mr Bealle

The Go. & Council not setting I cannot inform what will be the result of your application respecting the Horse.

[John Moale, Baltimore Town to Gov. Lee.] September 8

I have Commited to Baltimore County Goal a Certain Arthur Kirk late an Inhabitant of this Town. I am Inform'd that he was Mate to a Certain Capt John Hagman who sailed in a Brig from this place sometime in June or July last has Join'd the Enemy and has since Taken several Vessels belonging to the Inhabitants of this State. It appears by the Evidence produced to me, that Kirk was put in a Sloop Taken by the Revenge Galley Capt. Bennison belonging either to the King of Great Brittain or one of his subjects as Prize Master, and was retaken by a Certain William Belwood; James White, Thos Hall and others, and that he was Standing down the Bay—and by the Evidence of John Thomas a Seaman belonging to

September 8 said Gally, that said Kirk was Prize Master on board said Sloop, received a Copy of Bennison's Commission from his First Lieutenant, and was Bound to York in Virginia, in order to Join the Enemy. Its possible that more may Turn out in Evidence at the Trial, but the above I think the most Material, be pleased to Inform me what you will do in respect to this Man.

September 9
Brown Book
No. 3
Letter 12

[M. Gist, Baltimore, to Gov. Lee.]

The Commander in Chief has put into my hands this morning a list of Ordnance and Stores wanting for the intended operations in Virginia, amongst which are 10.18 pounders mounted on Travelling or Garrison Carriages; including the 2.18 pounders left by the Marquis at Annapolis. The remaining 8. he wishes to be furnished with, by this state, on any terms you may think proper to spare them for which he has requested me to write you immediately ꝑ Express, and if obtained to embark such as are mounted as early as possible.

The General desires I may acquaint you that these Cannon will be essentially necessary in his operations, and begs if there is not a sufficient number on Carriages, you will please to aid him so far as to order them to be mounted

September 9

[Matt. Ridley, Baltimore, to Gov. Lee.]

Yesterday Gen[l] Washington came here & this Morning very early pursued his Route to the Southward about twelve o'clock at noon Gen[l] de Rochambeau arrived & soon after went on his way to Virginia. This Information & which he desired me to communicate to you is,—The detachment of about 2500 men were to embark this morning at the Head of Elk with such baggage &[ca] as there were sufficient vessells to carry That the whole would have embarked but for want of the means. He therefore had ordered the remainder of the Troops amounting to 5000 to march for this Town & desired that every preparation might be made for embarking from hence. Spoke much of the difficulties and delays that would attend being obliged to march by Land & in short that it might be the cause of not succeeding in the expedition. He therefore desires that every exertion may be made for collecting Vessels from all parts & that they may be ordered to this place with the greatest expedition. Such as come in here will of course be stopd for the purpose and I have to beg your Excellency will direct all others here. Perhaps some may be found in the different Rivers. The Nautilus lays in Patuxent & would be of service on this occasion Indeed all craft of twelve Tons or upwards will be wanting. The Gen[l] was of opinion the Galley would answer well—particularly for convoying & carrying military stores. The managers for her are fitting her out but the want of money makes her go on very slowly. I believe she was once offered to the state. I would beg to submit it to consideration whether it

would not be best to have her for the state service—man her properly, let her cruize in the Bay, as we are informed the Enemys cruizers are still in it, & whether if she was sent to York (on account of the little water she draws) she may not be of essential service in the operation there September 9

Gen[l] Chataloux & some other officers are come in this Evening. The Gen[l] says the Troops will most probably be here on Tuesday Evening & presses much making every prepation for getting them forward. Every thing in my power shall be done; but I have thought it necessary to send this by Express that you may pursue such methods as you may deem most eligible.

[Rich[d] Barnes, Leo[d] Town to His Excellency Thos. Sim Lee Esq[r]] September 10

Agreeable to your direction I appointed M[r] Rob[t] Armstrong to keep a Person at Point lookout to give me the earliest information of the appearance of the Enemy, in consequence of which I rec[d] the inclosed by express yesterday, and shuld have immediately sent an express to you, If I had apprehended it was part of the French Fleet that we have been informed were in the Bay. Which If true, may make it unnecessary to keep a Person at Point look out, shall be glad of your directions on the Subject. I have appointed M[r] Hugh Hopewell to send all the Vessels that can be got to the head of Elk.

[Rob. Armstrong to The Honble Richard Barnes, Esq[r]] September 9 9 o'clock Saturday Morning

This morning about Sunrise was discovered three sails a small distance above Smiths Point comeing up the Bay the wind South West, I stayed sometime in order to see what they were. The wind Changing to North I found them to be two Ships and A Brigg the foremost Ship is now not more than Eight Miles below Point Lookout working up under all the sail that she can make. Agreeable to your Instructions—I have dispatched a Messenger (John Lee) to you, who is to be paid ten shillings hard money for his trouble.

[Tho[s] Beall of Geo. for T Richardson Esq[r] Geo Town to His Excellency Tho[s] S. Lee Esq[r]] (Hon[d] by Mr. Denny) September 10

I have been Chiefly all through this County and find Beeves in General very Poor & Scarce from present Appearances I don't belive I shall be able to get above two hundred which Number I hope to have brought together as near to this place as Good Pasturage can be had this week—and if there is as many as three Hundred in this County I will have them.

I am getting Hay Corn & Oats in very fast every body in this County seems willing to Supply me with forage. I shall write you Immediately as soon as I can Possibly get the Cattle together—what

September 10 Number I can get. I have 60 Waggons Impresed in this County to bring down Con[l] flour, Forrage & &c you'l send me more Money as soon as Convenient

September 10 [Henry H. Chapman, Port Tobacco, to Colo: John H. Stone, Annapolis] (P[r] favor Mr. Dyson)

I this moment receiv'd a letter from Gen[l] Smallwood desiring me immediately to repair to George Town to join the regiment; an Application for Money, Clothes &c being necessary have apply'd to M[r] Dyson to transact that Business for me, as affairs here render my coming impracticable. I shall esteem it a favour if you'll give him an order for those things which the late appointed Officers of my Rank are entitled to.

September 10 [Hugh Hopewell, St. Marys County, to Gov. Lee.]

Agreeable to a Letter delivered me by Coll Richard Barnes from you, I have impressed Two Sloops and one Schooner Boate the Sloops are about 35 Tons Burthen the Boate above 12 the Sloops I expect is at the Head of Elk before this the Boate sits off from Patuxent this Day she would have gone before but wanted some Repaires

September 10 [William Leigh, Charles Co[ty], To His Excellency Thom: Simm Lee Esq[r]] (fav[rd] by M[r] Landsdale)

M[r] Lansdale brings an Ord[r] on the Treasu[r] & as M[r] Hudson has sustain'd Great Loss by not obtaing the money before this I hope you'l Interest y[r] self in his regard, & have the money got & forwarded by M[r] Landsdale

September 10 Red Book No. 29 Letter 54 [Dan'l Jenifer, Portobacco, to Gov. Lee.] (By Mr. Luckett)

Enclosed is what I wrote your Ex[cy] the 6th your Letre of the 4th did not reach me 'till yesterday and I hope my waiting for Leigh's Waggon will be a suff[t] apology for the Goods not being sent sooner, M[r] Ridgate has a Quantity of linnens (but none brown) which he proposes offering to the Governor and Council—shou'd Luckett want any forage, I hope the Qu[r] Master will be ordered to furnish him, I believe he will want nothing but Hay, and if there shou'd be any use for horses I wish the Governor & Council wou'd order the Bay horse to be retained he is so mischievous I have been obliged to keep him in the stable for 6 weeks past; he is a good Carriage horse, and was appraised to £52..10..1, 7 years old

September 10 [James Wells, To his Excellency Thomas Sim Lee]

Inclosed I send you My Commission with a Resignation thereon as I find Myself quite Uncapebel of Acting any Longer in that Station

[Wm. Whiteley, Caroline County, to the Governor and Council] September 10

Your Excellency & Honours I have sent forward two more of our Drafts and one Substitute which is all we have ketcht of those that deserted and I apprehend we shall hardly get aney more of them for I believe the rest of them have left the state—there will be an application made to your Bord by Mr Gibson in Respect to one Allimby Millington who was drafted in this County and has since kept out of the way—he holds himself as a Militia Man of Talbot County but he was a living in this County at the time of the Draft and was taken down by the Assesser as a fifteen shilling Man I shall submit to your determination weather we have a Right to hold him as a Draft or not.

[Fran^{s} Hall, Queens Town, to His Excellency Thomas Sim Lee, Esqr] (By favor Col^{o} Tilghman) September 11

The Inclos^{d} letter I rec^{d} yesterday you will see it is a letter from Glasgow as I wish to steer Clear of all sensure I thought proper to send it to your Excellency he speaks of one in Clos^{d} which did not Come to my hands I got the letter I send you in the State I send it open^{d}, there is a Gent^{n} in this neighbourhood has got a letter from the same person which is the letter I suppose he speaks of, the Gent^{n} will send his letter by first oppertunity I make no doubt to your Excellency I am Sir your most ob^{t} H^{ble} Servt

[John Crawford Jr, Port Glasgow to Francis Hall, Esqr, Queens Town, Queen Anns County, Maryland, North America] (Forwarded by John Marshall) May 27

Last year I was made happy to hear of all my good friends in Queen Anns by a young Lady of this Country who had resided some time in your agreeable Family

By this time I suppose you'll have forgot your old friend Crawford, But I can assure you, that Crawford has reason niver to forget you and good Mrs Hall for the many Kind Civilitys Shewn me, when in Maryland. Many are the disagreeable events that have happened Since I left you, now ne'r Eight years

If this should reach you It will only Serve to tell you, That I am well and Maried to a most agreeable young lady by whom I have had two Children, one of which is in life (a son). That my Name sake John, and M^{r} & Mrs Peacock, And Robert Campbell are all well; What think you of the old Batchelor Robin to marry a young girl of twenty.

May all Manner of Happyness Attend you Mrs Hall and family

[P. S.] Please forward the Inclosed. It would make me extremely happy to hear from you with your Queenstown news.

September 11 [Wm. Hemsley, Queen Anns County, to Gov. Lee.] (Fav^{d} by Col^{o} T. Tilghman.)

I shou'd have answered your Favor relative to Peter Bahan, had I not been from home.

Bahan was hired as a Substitute by Mr Emory & had disposed of his wheat to a person in this Neighbourhood for a few old Cloaths. When I understood how he had disposed of his property, I made the man take his Cloaths again, and Mr Emory gave Bahan, a Line to Draw an order on him for the wheat and he wou'd pay it as he supposed Bahan cou'd sell the wheat to more advantage at Ann^{s} for he cou'd not get any money here for it.

I fear we shall get no more of the Draughts in, unless a Serjeant and a few men were sent over to take them. The Militia Captains will not execute my Orders, they pretend they cant find the Men. As next Monday is Battalion day I will endeavour to have them sent down.

The people here part with their Cattle with great pleasure. [I have had Nine hundred pounds Subscribed for the support of the new Money].

September 11 [Nich: Maccubbin Senr to John Bullin Esqr, Annapolis]

Mr Gaither the purchaser of provision for A. A. County was with me Last Saturday and he tells me that you are to Take the State flour and bran from My Mills which I again desire may be done (Soon) but before you send Let me Know the day you'll be or send to my Mill and I'll send one to Deliver it the Person you send must try the weight of the Barrills by my scales they are in the Mill and the same Scales I received the wheat by and Give a receit for what He receives otherwise I'll not Deliver it for I'll have nothing to do with it after it is turn'd out of the Mill House I'll not run the Resque of it being brought to This Town to be weighed

September 11 [Wm Hemsley, Lieut of Q. A. Co^{ty}, Queens Town, to Mr. John Chaires]

Col^{o} Tench Tilghman Aide De Camp to Genl Washington is now here with his Horses lamed & unfit to travell, he therefore wants two of Your Horses belonging to the State to proceed on to Virginia.

The enclosed rec^{t} will be sufficient Authority for you to deliver him the Horses, & he will be accountable to the Council, or the Quarter master General. You will please send the white Horse you had from Mr Hollyday & the Sorrell Horse from Mr Browne, or instead of him one of the easyest going Horses you have. If you shou'd have any doubts ab^{t} the delivery of the Horses, I will answer the Consequences.

P. S. Pray dispatch the Messenger as Col^{o} Tilghman must be at Ann^{s} to-night

The Horse Billy Murphy rides is a public Horse & you will please to keep him & have him well fed & sent off with the rest when they go. I will write the Govr by Col^{o} Tilghman that he has the Horses. If Mr Chaires is from home Mrs Chaires is requested to send them—please to send Col^{o} Tilghman Two Good Horses, perhaps one of Mr Lawson's Horses may be better than Mr Brownes. September 11

[Petition of James O'Hara, Annapolis, To the Honble the Governor and Council] September 11

The Humble Petition of James O'Hara formerly belonging to Col. Smallwood's Battalion having unfortunately lost his Eyesight in the year 1777 and having no resource but the Humanity of his Country, and presuming on your Honors Goodness and Attention to the wants of your poor Soldiery, I am Induced by my pressing wants in the Article of Cloathing to implore your Honours to grant such order as may provide me with such Necessaries as may Cloth me against the Approaching Winter. Having Rec'd no Cloathing of any Acc^{t} since the year aforesaid and am therefore at this present without a Coat, and even without money to purchase Wood.

refering my unhappy situation to your Honours and in the expectation you will grant an Old Soldier the Necessary relief, I shall as in duty bound sincerely Pray

[G^{o} Washington, Mount Vernon to His Excellency Governor Lee] September 11 [Copy]

I intended, on passing thro' Maryland, to have done myself the Pleasure to have called on your Excellency, but Circumstances pressing upon me, as I advanced on my March, & Time slipping too fast from me, I found a Necessity of getting on with that Rapidity as has obliged me to proceed without calling at Annapolis.

I am exceedingly pleased to find, as I passed thro' your State that a Spirit for Exertion prevails universally in such Manner as gives me the happiest Prospects of receiving very effectual support from you.

Great Attention is necessary to be given to the Article of Supplies—I mention this Circumstance, as I am just informed from below, that the Army is in Distress at this Moment for Want of Provisions—particularly Flour, let me intreat your Excellency to give every the most expeditious Relief on this Head that is within your Power

[Dan'l Jenifer, Portobacco, to Gov. Lee.] September 11 Red Book No. 29 Letter 25

As I have a great inclination to go to the Southward, to have the pleasure of seeing a finishing Stroke put to the War; I will thank your Ex^{cy} to supercede me in the office of Reg. of Wills for Chas County. It is an office that cannot be executed by Deputy, otherwise I should deputi in my Absence, It is also a post of very great trust. & that it may be well filled, is the wish of Your Excellency's most ob^{t} ser^{t}

September 11
Brown Book
No. 8
Letter 27

[H. Knox, Brig Gen'l Artillery, Annapolis, to Gov. Lee]

I have the honor to state to your Excellency the importance of an immediate supply of Thirty thousand feet of white oak plank, of 2½ or 2 inches thick, which is wanted for the intended operations against the enemy in Virginia. The difficulty and indeed impracticability of transporting this article from any other quarter has induced a full dependence for it on Maryland. I have written to Gen[l] Gist, who is at Baltimore, on this matter, but as his powers must be very limited, I take the liberty earnestly to pray your Excellency to take such decided measures as will ensure the quantity above mentioned, or such part of it as can possibly be procured, in a few days.

The Board of War in Philadelphia informed me of eight tons of Powder, belonging to the Continent at Frederick Town in this state, which I also pray may be transported, as soon as possible, to the most convenient water carriage and embarked on board of a tight vessel, proper for the purpose, and forwarded to the point of operation.

The extreme imbecillity of any continental arrangements will, I hope, be a sufficient apology for troubling your Excellency on these subjects

If it should be found impossible, upon examination to obtain the white oak plank, pine plank might be substituted

[September 12]

[Petition To his Excellency Thomas Sim Lee Esquire]

We the Subscribers being Excited by an Object of great Pity beg Leave to Represent to your Excellency the Situation of Benjamin Light and to Solicit Your Interposition in his behalf he has been Confined in the Goal of Washington County from the ninth day of November 1780 almost the whole Time in heavy Irons in that situation has he Lingred away Life with Cloathing scarcely Sufficient to Cover his nakedness he Stands Committed on Suspicion of passing Counterfeit Money and although the money may be Counterfeit it is done in such a manner that very few Can distinguish it we hope from these Circumstances and the Extream Punishment which the Prisoner has suffered Your Excellency will be Pleased to Grant him a pardon and to permit the said Benjamin Light to Enlist in the American Army for three years which he will most Readily Comply with it is thought that he might be a most Valuable man in the Army as he is an Extraordinary Black Smith & might be Kept with the Travelling Forges at his Trade

John Stull;	Elie Williams;	Andrew Rentch;
Henry Schnebely;	Alexander Clagett;	B. Johnson.
John Cellars;	Richard Davis;	
H. Shryock;	Joseph Chapline;	

[Gov. Lee's statement relating to the above petition] September 12 [Draft]

I have thought proper that all Proceedings at Law against Benjamin Light who was committed to the Gaol of Washington County on Suspicion of passing Counterfeit Money in November 1780 should cease and that the said Benjamin Light be discharged on Condition that he forthwith enlist himself into some one of the Regiments of this State in the Service of the United States for the Term of three years and that he do not depart from the service during the said Term of three years.

[Joseph Dashiell, Worcester County, to Gov. Lee.] September 12

Your favour of 6th Instt was handed me last night By a negro Boy but who was the Barer I know not: In answer I have to ashure you, (that if our people should be so lost to a sence of their duty & Intrest as to refuse the Commissary Colecting the provision) That nothing will give me more pleasure than to Inforce your orders. I shall let the Commissary know that I have Recd your Excellcy's orders to that purpose and shall be ready to give him any aid he may stand in need of.

I have had a long fit of Illness but hope I am getting the Better of it.

If please God I Recover you may Rest ashured that every nerve shall be exerted in my Conterys Case ever dear to me

[Alex. Smith, George Town, to] September 12 Red Book No. 27 Letter 138

Should take it as a particular favour if you would be pleased to forward by the bearer Mr Bonum the advance money allowed the surgeons mate of the fourth Maryland, as I cannot myself call on you for the money, there being no other Surgeon for the Regt In so doing you'll much oblige Your Humbl Servt

[James Shaw, Dorchester Coty, to Gov. Lee.] (By Mr. Brewer) September 12 Red Book No. 27 Letter 139

I have sent a list of the Subscriptions recd by me, there is sufficient Landed security given in, for the sums Subscribed, I shall endeavour to get every Person in my Neighborhood that is inclined to Subscribe to do it, in the course of a few days & Transmit a list of their names & the same by the first oppertunity. I sincerely Congratulate you on the Arival of the French Fleet, and make no doubt of the People of our County giving every assistance in their Power.

John Henry £500..0..0; James Shaw 250..0..0; James Sullivan 250..0..0; [Total] £1000..0..0.

September 12
Brown Book
No. 2
Letter 17

[W. Smallwood, George Town, to Gov. Lee.] (Favor of Mr. Denny)

I arrived early the next Morning after I left Annapolis, at George Town, Col° Adams had marched the day before from Cameron and crossed the Ferry at Colchester, I detached an Officer after him with Orders to leave at Dumfries the covered Waggon for the Officers of the first and second Regiments, Thirty five Tents, and two Waggons for use of the 4th Regiment, urging the necessity of this distribution that the Troops might fare alike, and that the State was making every exertion to forward Supplies to them, but as he paid no Attention to the former Order respecting the covered Waggon, it is doubtful whether he will comply with this, as he is more commonly actuated by caprice and invincible Obstinacy, than that propriety of Conduct which should ever mark and distinguish the Officer, but I have left it optional with him to comply with the order or Subject himself to an Arrest

I forwarded the Arms and Accoutrements for the third Regiment by water to Dumfries, in time I hope to fall in with the Regiment there, and procured an open Waggon for Conveyance of the Baggage of the Officers of the first and second until they could overtake the third.

(See page 491)

The inclosed Return from Major Roxburgh will explain the wants of his Regiment, most of the Articles are indispensably necessary, but without Camp kettles, Axes, Canteens Nap and Haversacks they cannot march; indeed Blankets and Shoes will be nearly as essential, I must therefore earnestly solicit that the above Articles may be forwarded with all possible dispatch. Major Roxburgh has received four Waggons from Frederick and now only waits for the Camp Kettles &ca

I was at General Washingtons Seat last Saturday and Sunday expecting his arrival, but Mrs Washington receiving a Letter on Saturday Evening which left it doubtful whether he could take that in his rout, I came up to George Town on Sunday in my way to Baltimore in order to fall in with him there, but unluckily found when it was too late he had crossed over at Mr Diggeses. I am afraid I shall remain here longer than I expected to forward this Regiment

P. S. We have received Intelligence of Capt Parker from the Marquis's [army] that the French Squadron and Troops from Rhode Island had arriv'd safe and joined the Count de Grasse

September 13

[Will Deakins, Jun'r, George Town, to Gov. Lee.]

Inclosed you have a List of the subscriptions which I have recd in this Town, many of the Inhabitants have Subscribed to Mr Baylys Subscriptions, the Inhabitants of this Town have associated Generally but am sorry to say the Inhabitants in every other part of this County are very backward, every exertion is made in this little place to give free Circulation to the Currency

Return of Cloathing, Camp Equipage &ca wanting to compleate the 4th Maryd Regt now at Geo. Town September 10th 1781.

Marquis	Horse mens Tents	Com Tents	Camp Kettles	Axes	Can-teens	Knap Sacks	Haver Sacks	Wooden Bowls	Wooden Platters	Spoons	Blankets	Shirts	Stocks	Stockings	W.Overs	Linen	Shoes
1	8	94	100	24	450	350	350	100	200	450	230	200	200 or Blank Books 12 large 36 small	200 or Paper 2 Reams	200	100	900

N. B. The above return is calculated for the men that are now present at the post, so that the furloughed men as they return to Annapolis must be compleated previous to their marching from that place

Alexr Roxburgh Major Co mdt 4th Maryd Regt

September 10
Brown Book
No. 5
Letter 46

September 13 [Thos Nelson Jr., Williamsburg, to Governor Lee]

The great consumption of Salt, which so large an Army as is now collecting in this State, will necessarily occasion, makes me apprehensive that it will be difficult for us to furnish sufficient supplies of that article, as I imagine it will be in your Power to afford us assistance in this respect, I must request that you will have measures taken for this purpose.

I also beg leave to remind you of what I mentioned in a former letter, that a supply of flour from your State, will be very acceptable if not absolutely necessary.

September 14
3 o'clock
Red Book
No. 29
Letter 26

[Dan'l Jenifer, Port^{o}, to Gov. Lee.]

Your Excellency's favor of yesterday was this minute handed to me by express. As the case is urgent I will endeavour to search for Vessels but fear none are to be had in this River. Col^{o} Laurens on his way to W^{ms}burg has sent forward to inform me that he is in want of two Horses. I shall furnish him with two belonging to the State which I hope will meet with the approbation of the Governor & Council.

September 15 [John Smith Brookes, Upper Marlbro, to The Honble The Governor & Council.]

I sett out immediately upon the receipt of your Commands of the 30 Ulto upon the Collection of the Cattle agreeable to your directions, and have been very earnest in the business untill the present moment; and had not a letter which I received from the Commissary General at Baltimore, dated the 3rd Ins^{t} ordering me to detain the Cattle in pastures untill further instructions, I should have had the greater part of them at George Town by this day.

The present being favoured by such good hands (Mr Craufurd) I cannot omit to request in the most earnest manner that I may be (by him) furnished with as much money as will Compleat the Payment of the Beef & the necessary expences attending the Collection and driving them; as also money to pay for the waggonage of the Fish.

It is impossible to describe to you the difficulties I labour under in fulfiling your orders for matters where the money is not depositted, very few acts appear to come voluntarily from the people, especially where the demand amounts to a disposal of any part of their property, and this reluctance is rendered much greater when they find the money is not to be received.

I am under the greatest anxiety with respect to flower Barrels, and the Millers declare they cannot continue receiving the Publick wheat without them, and such as have been received is liable to great waste & damage. Barrels I cannot procure from George Town, as

I have made application to Mr Beall who informs me, his situation and necessaty for them is as great as my own—the Barrels you gave me an order on Mr Rozier for, is to good for the purpose of Flower, and their number very inconsiderable, they had better be reserved for Pork. If the Council will furnish me with money for one thousand Barrels, I can get them made immediately and without the Cash I cannot procure them, and without them the publick wheat will run a very great risque of being damaged and the Collection of the tax so far as relates to that article, be in a great measure enterupted. I pray you will please to take these matters under your consideration and favour me with your answer by Mr Crauford. As the fall is approaching tis time proper measures was taken to provide a sufficient number of good Barrels for the securing and packing away, what pork may be offered in payment of taxes agreable to the late act for furnishing supplies—'twill not be in my power to make this necessary preparation, unless I am timeously furnished with the only means, which is money. The Commissioners of the Tax have nominated several places in this County, whereat the people may deliver their Pork in payment of their publick debts, this makes it necessary that a quantity of Barrels and Salt, should be lodged at each of those Places—how far the Commissioners were justifiable in their Conduct I will not pretend to say, but it appears to me that the legislature meant, and indeed express that only one place in each County should be nominated for the receipt and Curing of dead meat Provisions—their appointing several will necessarily increase the expence. I presume not less than one hundred thousand Pounds of Pork might be Collected in this County, in this winter, if the proper measures are adopted, and the necessary provisions made in time, & I think could I be furnished with money for that purpose, I should be able to do every thing that related to the duties of my office & without that, it will not be in my Power to do any thing to the purpose. I rely entirely upon your directions September 15

[Jas. Calhoun, Baltimore, to Gov. Lee.] September 15

I had the honor to receive yours of this date and shall not fail to afford all the exertions I am capable of in collecting the public flour to Navigable Water so as it may be forwarded to our Army in Virginia.

At present there is between 4 & 500 B^bles in the Continental Magazine at this place which Genl Gist has directed the Quarter Master to send forward immediately, but not a Barrel to be borrowed, indeed it is not in the Town, I am purchasing for the supply of the French and am not able to get what they wanted in this place although I have the hard money to pay for it, however it will certainly come in very fast in a few days. By the return made me from Montgomery County there is 1185 Barrels Flour at George Town besides which

September 15 there must be a very considerable quantity coming in dayly from Fred^{k} & Washington Counties as I have repeatedly wrote the Commissaries of those Counties to forward what they had or could get with the utmost expedition & enclosed each of them warrants for impressing Waggons for the purpose.

I sincerely join in congratulation on the Junction of the Fleets and their success, it affords a pleasing prospect to every good Whig & lessens the hopes of the Tories

September 15
Red Book
No. 30
Letter 36

[H. Hollingsworth, Head of Elk, to His Excellency Thomas Sim Lee, Esqr. In Council.]

And please your Excell^{cy} and Honours Your favour of the 30th August came duly to hand with the £250 which should have been answered sooner had not the continued throng I have been in ever since prevented it, the flour I now have on hand is about 500 Bb^{ls} and about one hundred head of Cattle for this State with about five hundred Head of large Oxen belonging to the continent, these oxen together with about three times that number which I was (by your order) obliged to supply with Forage and pasture, has made a very considerable consumption in the Forage and pasture of this County which renders it difficult to obtain pasture now, (and I fear more so hereafter (for our state Cattle) I have therefore wrote to Mr Voorhees & Casson to have what cattle he has collected put out to pasture in Kent and Caroline Countys, where I will send for them when wanted, and if large quantitys should come shall be obliged to send them over to the Delaware state where pasture is plenty, (though they wont take one shilling of our State money) In all payments in our State I pay the People one half hard, the other State, this I do from necessity, as there is no other way of possibly getting on with the business in this County, tis so near the Line that should I urge the whole in State it would have a great tendency to depreciate it. I have consulted some of the first men in the County (in my difficultys) and they recommend it—the flour delivered in Philadelphia I have not yet got a return of as soon as I do shall send it—there is large Quantitys of wheat collected in my district (among some of which the fly is begining to be busy) which I fear must suffer as there is very little water with the Mills below, and all the Vessels are taken up in the transport service so that I have not one to forward the wheat to where it might be Manufactur'd with certainty and dispatch nor have I any wheat in the Mills (I have so often recommended) will thank you for any assistance the service will admit of in obtaining craft to forward the wheat

Inclosed is a copy of a letter from Col^{o} Blain this day received, by which your Excell^{y} & Honours will observe that a quantity of Salt provisions are expected of us, as Barrels and salt are both wanting—before any thing of this sort can be gone into, I shall wait your

directions therein, and shall only look out for Barrels (not engage them) untill I have the Honour of hearing from you on that Subject, September 15 Red Book No. 30 Letter 36

P. S. Please to inform me how far I am to supply the Quarter Master with pasture and Forage and what I am to do with the Hides and Tallow of the Cattle killed on State account

[Eph. Blaine, C. G'l, Elk, to Colo Hollingsworth, State Agent.] September 15 Red Book No. 30 Letter 55 [copy]

All the Cattle which are comeing in from the Eastward with those furnishd by your district are to be delivered to Mr Yeates D. Q. M. G^l for the State of Maryland who has received Instructions how to dispose of them, you will deliver him all the Cattle you possibly can, and press the County Contractors to procure the supplys required without delay—the necessity of Provisions Southardly and the great demand, will require your utmost exertion and punctual compliance with every demand—the season for salting provisions is near at hand and if our Army remains to the southard very large requisitions will be made for Salt provisions have therefore to request you to make preparation in salt and Barrels for the above purpose I shall wait upon your Governor and Council upon my way down, and represent to them the necessity of prepareing the above mentioned Articles and make no doubt but they will make proper provision.

[B. Lincoln to Governor Lee.] September 15 Brown Book No. 8 Letter 9

I am, this moment, informed by Col° Stewart that all the Flower, which he can now promise, is two hundred Barrels at the Head of Elk, three hundred at Baltimore and one thousand Barrels at George Town.

This is a Supply for fifteen Days only and much less, if we pay what we have borrowed of the French. From this short View of the matter, your Excellency will see how totally unequal that number is to what will be our Demand, and how dangerous it is to the Safety & Intrest of America to suffer so important an Expedition as the present to rest a moment on so precarious a Basis. Pray give me Leave to solicit an Exertion of the Powers & Interest of this State to collect & forward to the Army, or collect, at least, one hundred Barrels of Flower per Day

A collection of Beef will also require every Exertion

Your Excellency is too fully possessed of the necessity of supplies to need my saying more on the Subject.

[William Bowie, Upper Marlboro to The Honble the Governor & Council] (Hon^d by Mr. Brooks) September 16

I have sent by Mr Brookes two Acco^ts which on perusal if found wright you will please to give an Order on the Treasurer for the money or Tobacco as you think proper.

September 17 [Thos. Beall of Geo. for T. Richardson, Com'y, Geo Town, to His Excellency Thos S. Lee Esqr] (Favd by Mr. Cary)

As soon as your favr of 13th Inst came to hand; I communicated the Contents to Mr Joshua George Q. M. for this place; to whom I had delivered all the flour Agreable to an Order from James Calhoun Esqr dated 5th Inst Mr George went down to Collo Hendricks of Alexa who promised to send up Vessells; there was but two small Pilott Boats at this place which I Immediately Impressed—there has been sent down 131 Barrells flour & there is still at this place and in the neighbourhood 1000 Barrels. I have given Possitive Orders to the Different Millers in this County who has Publick Wheat to have it Immediately Ground up—and you may Rely on it that Nothing shall be wanting to forward the Service that lays in my Power.

P. S. I am getting Cattle here to day to Join a drove coming on.

September 17
Red Book
No. 27
Letter 56

[Stephen Steward, West River, to the Council.]

It is been three weeks since I have been coming up to you and have been prevented by a bad wound on my legg which continues so bad I dare not venture to ride so I send Mr Wasteneys my Clark to you. I here Inclose you Mr Lambdins Letter where you'l find nothing will do but hard money, for plank which I have not got nor will the Red money buy it, I have laid out at least £300 Hard money for the use of the Gally already, which I shall be a great looser by, as I can buy any thing for Hard money at much less price then I can for the New Emission, indeed salt provisions coud not be bought all Summer for any thing but this Hard money which I have been obliged to buy with my own money at an Extravagant price. I now soon shall be without Salt provisions, perhaps it may sute you to Let me have some and a little hard Cash as I have no more of my own I shoud likewise be glad you will send me four or five Hundred pounds of the New Emission—we go on but slow with the Gally for want of hands, Mr Chase has got several of my hands from me by giving them a much Higher wages then I think they are worth and promising to pay them Hard money which I cannot do with any prospect of doing it. As soon as it is possible for me to go I intend over the Bay myself to get Masts for the Gally, I think you had best have her Rigged a three Mast Schooner as you cant get people that understand Gallys and a three Mast Schooner will be Equally as handy and her Masts will hold but very little more wind, if she is Rigged a Schooner you may then send her to sea Occationally I want much to talk to you on this Occation. Mr Wasteneys Receipt will be Equall to my own for any thing you give him for me I think the Gally will be Superior to any that ever was built on this Continent, as I cant get the plank from the Eastern shore I have Desired Mr Wasteneys to go over Magaty to see if he can get plank there for the new Emission at some price or I must Discharge what few hands I have for want of both

materials and provisions If you Conclude to make the Gally a three Mast Schooner she will be fit for any use at Sea or In the Bay and full as Handy on Every occation as a Gally you will write me by Mr Westeneys

September 17
Red Book
No. 27
Letter 56

[Robt. Lambdin, Bayside, Talbott Cty, to Stephen Steward at West River]

[Sept.] 6
Red Book
No. 27
Letter 55

I Recd yrs p the Negroes, tht Came in Mr Harrison's Boat, I am Sorry you sent for the plank without sending the money, as by Contract was to be paid at the Delivery of the plank, I was promt in performance, I Expected promt payment, in Consequence of which; tooke up a sum of hard money on intrest, I therefore Cannot Let the plank go till I have the hard money for it—it was to forward yr Business & to gett some hard Cash or I should not have undertook ye Jobb at such a Disadvantage as I did, therefore I hope you'll not take a miss my not Letting the plank go pray make my Case yr own in this matter and think how you would act.

As for the 4 or 500 feet of 3½ pine plank you writte to me for I Cant tell till I see you to agree on price (or some body forges) But in any thing tht I can serve you without Injuring my self, shall be with Esteem Yr Ready and willing Servt

[Chisr Edelen Frederick Town to His Excellency Thomas Simm Lee Esqr]

September 17
Red Book
No. 18
Letter 122

Immediately upon the Receipt of yours of the 3d Instt I applied to the several Shoemakers and Hatters in this place in order to procure Shoes & Hatts not one of these Tradesman had any of those Articles by them but promised towards the latter end of the month, to let me have the whole of what He cou'd get ready. I am in hopes A considerable number of Each will be delivered, by that time some of the Tradesmen seem very willing to take the new money if you woud order some to be sent. I make no doubt but what will receive it cheerfully

Inclos'd is three Instruments of Wrightings Sign'd by Nicholas Andrews, George Graves & Adam Graves I thought it proper they shou'd be lodged with you, therefore have sent them; I intend Marching them To morrow or on Tuesday morning as they cou'd not get ready sooner you will please to direct some person there to receive them.

[Chas. Stewart, Commy Gen'l Issues, George Town, to Gov. Lee.] (fav. Mr. Carey)

September 17
Red Book
No. 27
Letter 140

The Quarter Master & Commissary at this place have on hand near One thousand barrels of Flour and expect by to morrow to collect two hundred Head of Cattle. As there is a Drove of Cattle

September 17
Red Book
No. 27
Letter 140

coming from the Eastward that will be here this day, I have ordered the Drover to receive what will be collected here and proceed forward to the Army with them—this I have done to prevent any delay that might happen by waiting for Drovers until the Quarter Master here could procure them. On receipt of your Excellency's Letter the Commissary here has sent three small Boats with Flour in the whole about One hundred & twenty barrels, there are no Topsail Vessels here and those at Alexandria have been refused the Q Master who went there on purpose to demand them—I shall make Application for them & hope for success. Should I fail and this Flour be delayed the Army must inevitably want Bread, for this is our only dependence for a present Supply. I do not hear that any Flour or Cattle have yet been forwarded from Frederick, shall write the Commissary for that County and urge him to be expeditious. But in order to fulfil the Expectations of Government and to have the supplies forwarded with certainty and dispatch—I am of Opinion that Mr Calhoun should instantly make a Tour thro' his District, and see that his Assistants do their duty and forward the Supplies so much wanted—by doing this he will have the evidence of his own Eyes, and be able to represent to your Excellency & Council the true State of facts by being possessed of which your Excellencies correspondence with the Comm^dr^ in Chief will be certain on the Subject of Supplies & of course no disappointments arrise but what you can advise General Washington, Col Blain or myself of in time. Your Excellency will pardon my pointing to the duty of Mr Calhoun, my greatest wish is to have the Troops supplied, to effect which I shall spare no pains or fatigue myself

September 18

[Lt. Robt Denny, Ann^s^, to his Excell^y^ Governor Lee]

Captain Rezin Davis has been requested by Genl Smallwood and Major Roxburgh to join & take a command untill the expiration of this Campaign in the 4th Reg^t^ he being a Supern^y^ formerly of the Rifle Reg^t^ yet is anxious to embrace the opportunity of serving his country, as the Genl is not returned to Annapolis, I should wish to have your sentiments respecting his receiving a proportion of specie with those officers of the 5th Reg^t^ if there is none in the Treasury I have a small Allowance in my hand, for those Officers.

September 18

[Elie Williams, Eliz^th^ Town, to the Council.]

Col. Barret who resides in the upper part of the County has sent me an Acc^t^ of 13 men (enlisted under the Act for raising two Battalions of militia &c) one of which deserted on his march to this place which acc^ts^ for his name not appearing on the Enrollm^t^ & Qualification taken here, however the class will claim the Benefit of having furnish'd a Recruit as they had all sign'd a kind of an Enlistm^t^ on

the Copy of the Classes, the Recruits arrived here yesterday Evening but I tho^{t} it necessary to date their enlistment the 5th to entitle them to pay from that date as it appeared by the returns made by Col. Barrett that they had enlisted on or about that day, the Twelve Rec^{ts} which appeared I have ordered to Annapolis under the care and Command of Philip Anthony & Andrew Reede two of the number, and shall forward the others as soon as they come under my care. September 18

[Chas. Blake, Corsica, to His Ex: Thos S. Lee Esqr] September 19

I this moment Rec^{d} your orders about the Cattle our battallion meetts this day and I'll endeavour to have some cattle ready as soon as possible but it is impossible to have these at the time and place; if y^{r} Ex. will order a Vessel in Wye to Mr Boardleys I will put sixty on board immediately and have some sent to Kent point please to order an express to be immediately from Wye as soon as the Vessel arrives if one comes. Every thing in my Power shall be done, but I cannot possibly have them there by the time allowed as they are not collected. I will endeavour to gett what Sheep I can.

[P. S.] I am apprehensive that very few more can be had as there have [been] drovers come down with Gold.

[P. Thomas, Annapolis to The Honble John Stone Esqr, presd^{t} of the Council] September 19

I am under the necessity of requesting your Honble Board to Accept my resignation as a Justice of the Peace of Frederick County and as one of the Judges of the Orphans Court of the said County—My only Reasons for this Step are that I am in a very weak State of Health and have really more business, Public & private, than I can possibly manage with propriety—I shall always be happy in rendering the Public every Service in my power and entertain a due sense of the Honors conferred on me

[Theodore Middleton, to His Excellency Thos. S. Lee] September 20

As a considerable time has elapsed since I had the Honor of hearing from you, concerning the raising the comp^{y} of infantry for the defence of the Bay, I should be glad to know if you still propose that corps to be raised, If not, I must Sollicit your Excellency In an appointment in the first com. that may be recruited.

[Thos. Beall of Geo. for T. Richardson Geo. Town, to His Excellency Thos. S. Lee Esqr] September 20

I am Happy to inform you that altho the short Notice I had to procure Hay Oats Corn &c &c that there has been a plenty; Provided for all the Horses Oxen &c that came this way; as to Vessells to Transport flour I wrote you by Mr Cary; there came up here last night 3

September 20 small Vessels from Alex[a] for flour. I think they will carry about 400 Barr[ls] and Col[o] Hendricks of Alex[a] Assures me he will in a short time send up a Brigg which will take about 1000 Barrels, in the mean time if I can get small Vessels I shall continue to send it forward Agreable to your Orders.

I Rec[d] yesterday by Col[o] Blain £1500 cont[l] money and Letters for Com[ys] of F. County & Wash. which I sent forward yesterday by Express in a half an Hour after I Rec[d] it—believe there is little Brandy or Whisky to be had in this County.

The new Money seems to have had a Check in some Quarters; People begin to be shy of it where it has Orriginated I cannot tell—some say the People of Baltimore will not receive it

September 20 [David Poe, D. Q. M., Baltimore, to Gov. Lee.] (P[r] Capt. Turpin)

The Bearer hereof John Turpin waits upon your Excellency for your Directions, having Charge of 174 Bb[ls] of Public Flour, on his way to Head Quarters Virginia, As you must have the best Intelligence of the Situation of our Bay, Please to give him Directions how he may proceed on his way

September 21 [George Murdock, Fred Town to His Excellency Governor Lee] (p Express)

The Prisoners still continue here and we are again without Flesh, not only for them but for the Guard also, and not a Dollar of any kind to purchase with—Col Price has some Cattle on hand, but has some doubts about delivering them to me on your former order, If your Excellency thinks proper, be pleased to make further order in this matter.

September 23 [Cha[s] Blake, Corsica, to His Excell[y] Thomas Sim Lee, Esq[r]]

Y[r] Excellency's orders of the 17th never came to hand till the 19th at which time I was order'd to deliver 150 head of Cattle on Kent Point I immediately collected 97 Head all that could have the least chance of getting there in time. I put them under the charge of Mess[rs] Sam[l] Betton and Levin Downes (tho the Council are not in general acquainted with them M[r] Wright knows them to be good Men) with orders to proceed as fast as possible to Kent Point. When they came to the little ferry the wind was very high they drove them into Swim them acros, but the Waves dashing in their faces forced them on the drivers and they got so mad that they ran at every thing in their way. I dispatch'd an Express to the Point to inform the Persons orderd to receive that I had a drove on the way but could not pass at any rate till the wind fell; and desir'd it it could be done to order the Vessels into Wye where I would put the whole number of 150 or 300 on board if required; on the 21st the express returned and

inform'd that the fleet had sail'd and no one call'd at Kent Point. I then orderd the cattle back to Pasture where they all remain but 9 which got out the night of the 20th and are still missing but expect every day to hear of them as there are two persons in search of them. I hope if yr Ex: should order any more Cattle by water you will order the Vessels into Wye where the whole Cattle from the County may be collected and put on board; there are 60 on Wye Island ready. Yr Ex: desires an additional number tho the People are all willing still it is with difficulty they can spare the 350 without breaking in on their family provision. However if you'll inform me that it is necessary that I should collect a farther number by seizure (tho it will distress me to take from those, whats for their own use, who have already spared all the rest) I'll lay by all my own feelings rather than lett the expedition suffer. I hope the troops have suffer'd nothing for want of those Cattle I did all I could from the shortnes of the notice, and ever shall strain every thing to forward the Service September 23

[Rd Bond, Saint Marys County To the Governor and Council] September 24

As it is not in my power to keep the State Horses longer shall be much oblige to you to advise me by the next Post in what manner to Act. If they are to remain in this County any length of Time Colonel Barnes will undertake the care of them.

[Raphael Brooke, Frederick County, to the Gov. & Council.] September 24
(Pr Fr of Mr. J. Clabough)

I Have 6 or 7 Thousand wt of Net Beef and Mutton and Expect Neare as Mutch more In a few Weakes and Knowing this State is in want of those Articles should willingly serve them with what I have or Can Procure on the Following termes. Viz, I will Let My Meat at the Cash prise in Baltimore town And Deliver it to Aney Comaseray on the Western Shoure of Chesapeake bay that you May Apoint to Receive it, And Take Wheat in Payment In the Mills on Pipe Creek in this County at the Prise Curent it sels for at the time you Receve the beef & Mutton, If these termes is Agreeable Please to give mee an Answer by the bearer & I will wait on you In about two Weakes

[George Dashiell, Somt Coty, to Gov. Lee.] (Favd by Capt. Walley) September 24

In consequence of instructions recd from the Special Council I have impress'd the following vessels & sent to transport the troops from the head of Elk to Virginia to wit. A schooner belonging to Mr Josiah Dashiell sent forward to baltimore with orders to call on Colo Saml Smith for instructions; a Schooner belonging to Capt Jno Parker and one belonging to Mr James Handy—which goes up under Convoy of Capt Walley's barge. I have sent up with Capt.

September 24 Walley the barge which I sold Council, And put on board, Capt Parkers Schooner Fifty six Barrels of pork and Colo Challie has sent up the remainder in Mr James Handys Schooner from Worcester. The £500 Cash which I recd from the treasurer of the Western Shore for the Comry of Worcester I forwarded to Colo Challie with the letter recd from Council immediately on my return home from Annapolis, And as I found Mr McBryde disposed to Act as Comry in Somt Delivd him the 500£ which was deposited in my hands to purchase pork with in this county, I have this day consulted Capt. Walley on the dementions of the new barge Capt. Robt Dashiell has provided the materials workman &c and will finish her in a short time.

September 24 [Doct Ephr'm Howard (of Hy), Hill Serene, to Gov. Lee.]

I recd a verbal message by my brother James Howard that you are in want of a quantity of spades, Shovels, and pick axes to be delivered you in a few days. I have not any of those articles by me, but shall be able to supply a considerable quantity by the last of the week between Saturday night & Monday Morning; if you can wait so long; if not, I can supply with a number sooner; though if you can wait 'till the time mentioned the supply may be several hundreds. Please to inform me what number you want of each kind by the young man Mr Dennis Spurrier; Had I known of this a few weeks before, I could have supply'd you wth thousands; and if hereafter such articles shall be wanting, on your giving timely notice any quantity may be had of me. I have sent you the petitions of the inhabitants of Montgomery & Anne Arundel County respectg the negroes condemned in Montgomery County relative to their conspiring & attempting to poison Mr John B. Howard. I flatter myself the sentence pass'd by the Court in conformity to the verdict of the jury will be put in execution. I hope, I shall receive an answer relative to the Spades &c instantly, by wch my conduct will be regulated

September 24 Red Book No. 30 Letter 39 [Jno. Ross Key, Pipe Creek, Fred'k County, to Gov. Lee.]

I have been requested to sollicit your Excellency and the Council, in Behalf of the Bearer John Lainey and Fredk Clabaugh, two reputable Honest Farmers who live in my Neighbourhood, that your Excellency and the Council may condescend to direct and assist them by your Intercession to recover their Waggons and Horses that have been lately impressed into the Service of the State of Virginia.

The Waggons had been employed to take Loads from Philadelphia to Stemtown in Virginia upon their Return they were taken from them by a Quarter Master of the State of Virginia, and as Your Excellency will find by the Certificates herewith presented, for the use and Benefit of that State not for the Service of the Continent or the Continental Army.

Mr Lainey and Mr Clabaugh will be much injured should they not have it in their Power to procure their Teams, as they are unable to supply their Places by Purchase and consequently cannot carry on the Cultivation of their Farms. They further think that the State of Virginia could not legally impress Waggons into their Service that belonged to the State of Maryland. September 24 Red Book No. 30 Letter 39

They have no Prospect of recovering their Loss, but thro' the Intercession of your Excellency and the Honorable Council and are induced to beleive that your Excellency's Application to the Governor and Council of Virginia would promise a Discharge for their Teams.

Relying upon your Excellency Care and Attention to the Interest of the Inhabitants of this State I am led to flatter myself you will so far interest yourself in Behalf of Mr Lainey and Mr Clabaugh as may appear most consistent to you and most conducive to their Interest and advantage

[H. Hollingsworth, Head of Elk, to His Excellency Thomas Sim Lee, Esqr., In Council.] September 25 Red Book No 30 Letter 41

And please your Excelly and Honours Your favour of the 22d is now before me, the quantity of Provisions I have in this County is about four hundred Barrels of flour and about two hundred head of Cattle which I have frequently offered to the Quarter Master though have not yet got them delivered, hope I shall in a day or two, I wrote you in my last that my prospect of flour was discouraging for though there is large quantitys of wheat collected yet we have no mode of Transporting it to Mills where it can be Manufactured with dispatch, as the Vessels are all taken up in transport Service nor have we enough for that service, as Capt Stephens is here yet impressing Vessels for ordinance Stores, (by direction of his Excelly Genl Washington) so that Colo Yeates or my self cant get a single Vessel for flour, there is also large quantitys of Hospital Stores for the French Army which are in my care, waiting for Transportation, and Gentlemen waiting with them, every thing has been done by Colo. Yeates Capt. Stephens and myself (in our power) to procure Craft but they are not to be had (here) must therefore intreat that some of the Transport Vessels be sent back as soon as possible or I dispare of forwarding the flour in time I have wrote circular Letters to the several County Commissaries to have all the Wheat they possibly can manufactured into good Flour and to send me such as is more convenient to Navigation then to the Mills (if Vessels can be obtained) my future prospect of flour depends much on the wheat I receive; and the Transporting it to the army, on the Vessels that may be sent us, as none shall escape that come within our reach.

September 26 [John Mitchell, Piscattaway To Honble Stephen West, Esqr Annapolis]

Last Saturday morning I came from Baltimore to Annapolis & hop'd to have had the pleasure of seeing you in the Afternoon & agreeable to your kind promise, should have Craved your Advise & instruction in Negociateing A bill for Canvace that I supply'd the State with.

I have the real mortifycation to find that I am liable to Lose £2 : 12 by Ever Booth that I most chearfully give up for the use of my Country—but have no Doubt of Redress when represent the real Circumstance to his Exc^{y} & the Hon^{r} Councell. I conceive every man who is the real friend to his Country ought to lend Every Aid in his power. I therefore have the sattisfaction to advise you that I have had latly come to hand some Exceeding fine Light Duck, which the State shall have the preferance of at the price Allow'd Mr Jesse Tayler £15 : 2 : tho he (Jesse Tayler) hath offer'd me Cash in hand £16 : 15 should the Councel stand in need of this offer please to write me p^{r} Charles Lansdail. I had offer'd to go down the Bay, in the French Cutter, as a poilate for one of there ships, but my Doct^{r} old Wesenthall strongly oppos'd it—the wound in my neck is exceeding bad, that I shall lose the pleasure of being a party concern'd in the Taken Cornwallace.

September 26 [Jas. Calhoun, Baltimore, to the Gov & Council.]

I had the honor to receive yours of the 23^{d} and would have immediately set out on a tour through my district had I been able to ride but I have been laid up for several days past with a Billious Feaver and at this time am scarcely able to walk across the room.

When you wrote me last on this Subject the Troops were on their march from the Head of Elk to this place and I could not possibly leave home but immediately inclosed a certified copy of your impress warrant with one of my own anexed to the Commissaries of Fred^{k} and Washington Counties, and wrote them in the most urgent manner possible not only to forward all the flour they had on hand to George Town and this place but not to loose a moment of time in getting the wheat manufactured into good flour & waggoned without delay to George Town as the Combined Army in Virginia would be in immediate want of it, and they write me very favourable on the Subject; copies of their Letters I do myself the honor to enclose for your Satisfaction.

As soon as I am able, shall visit the different Counties on this business and in the mean time will do every thing I can by writing

[Moses Rawlings, Hagers Town, to James Calhoun, Esq.] September 16

I have the pleasure to acknowledge your favour of the 10th Inst and also your other Letter—you may rest assured that nothing in my power shall be wanting to Expedite the business, I have this Day Employed an Industrious Man to Impress Waggons to forward the flour in this County to George Town—for want of means it has not been in my power to procure Barrels sufficient to Grind up the wheat, the Commissioners have now allow'd me to pay for Barrels in Wheat, and have a number of Coopers now at work. I expect to start off a Brigade of Waggons next Monday with Flour and shall continue to send.

Never was such times to do Public business I have not money to bare my Travelling Expences as no kind pass in this County but hard Cash.

You wrote me for an accurate Account of all the Provisions in this County, which I will send you as soon as I am a Little at Leisure, I am so hurried at this time in procuring of Cattle for the Army that I have not a moment to spare, am riding almost night and Day on Public business. I see the great necessity we are in at this Time for Provisions for the Army and you may rely on my Industry & activity

[Thomas Price, Frederick Town, to James Calhoun, Esqr.] September 19

When I received yours of the 10th Inst I was then confined to my Bed by sickness, which occasioned some Delay—but the Impress Warrant & Stile of your Letter both convincing me that the greatest Expedition was necessary to be used, I immediately employed proper Persons who partly by means of the Warrant and partly by fair Words, engaged many Waggons, some for Baltimore & some for George Town according to the Situation of the Mills, & accordingly I have the pleasure to hear that many are now on their Way, The not general Currency of the late Emission has been & still continues to be a great Remora in the Way of purchasing Flour Bbls the Want thereof being a general Complaint with the Millers By the best Judgement I could form I believe I might reckon upon 1000 Bbls of Flour at the several Mills, about 300 of which I judge may now be delivered at Baltimore & George Town, & by the last of next Week, I promise myself the whole will be delivered Could I have acted myself immediately upon the receipt of your orders probably I should have succeeded better than I did by my agents, but as it is I am happy to think that there is such a prospect of its being all down so soon. Since my Recovery I have seen most of the Millers who have all promised to grind up the Wheat on hand as fast as possible & to endeavour to engage Waggons in their Neighbourhood to carry it away as fast as ready, this I can promise you that my utmost Exertions shall not be wanting. I have received an order from the Governor & Council to

September 19 procure a large Number of Beef Cattle as soon as possible & to drive or forward them to Fredericksburg in Virginia & have exerted myself as much as possible to collect them & notwithstanding this County has been greatly exhausted by the Maintenance of the Convention Troops Guards &c yet I have a well grounded Prospect of being able to send 100 from this place in three Days & as many more in the Course of next Week. My Sickness, the necessary avocations from the Business of the Office occasioned by my attending to the Governor & Council their & your pressing Orders, relative to Beef Cattle & Flour has prevented me from sending down a Return of Provisions this Week, but you may I think depend upon it by next Post

September 26
Red Book
No. 29
Letter 47

[Don. Yeates, D. Q. M., Elk, to Gov. Lee]

I rec^d your favour of the 23rd Advising me of this want of flour by our Army under His Excellency General Washington, and requiring that articles to be forwarded by me without delay of time, be assured no attention or Industry in my power shall be wanting in the execution of this business, Permit me to acquaint you I am much retarded in the business thro' the want of Craft, General Lincoln took every one from this place I could Collect on either shore for a Considerable distance down, after the first division sailed, since which eight or nine Craft has been procured and by the particular order of the General appropriated to the transportation of Amunition and some heavy Carriages to mount Artilery, in these a few Barrels of flour will be got in, to amo^t of p^rhaps one hundred B^bls or may be some more, these will sail to morrow, when I shall not have a Craft at the place unless some of the first division that sailed returns, I will then have on hand about three Craft Load of Artilery, Quarter Masters, and Commissary Stores exclusive of the flour but the first object now shall be to the forwarding the flour, and no oppertunity lost that I can avail myself of; think it right to acquaint you of these several circumstances as its probable some Craft may come into the Port of Annapolis under a pretence of their not being wanted.

P. S. 27th evening all the Craft here has fell down the river ab^t 15 in number under the direction of Captn Stephens and a Partie of the train of Artilery, all the amunition, Artilery and other stores which came on with the Army nearly shiped, also 151 B^bls of flour for the American Army & ab^t 140 for the french, a few good Craft will answer the business here now

September 27
Red Book
No. 27
Letter 10

[Charles Athey, Charles County to Governor Lee]

May it please Your Excellency I am a draught from this County and belong to Capt. John Mitchell's Company of the 4th Mary^d Regement; and on our march from Annapolis to Virginia obtained a furlough from my Captain for two days to see my friends, in Which

time I was Seas[d] With a pain in one of my hipps Which Was so violent as to Render it out of my power to Rejoin the Regiment, the pain is Still so sevear that I am not able to march, and therefore thought it my duty to inform Your Excellency of my Case, making no doubt But you Will Give some orders in the matter, Which I shall most Gladly Comply With to the utmost of my power. September 27 Red Book No. 27 Letter 10

[Thos Beall of G. for T. Richardson, Geo. Town, to His Excellency Thos. S. Lee Esq[r]] September 27

I am to inform you that our New Money has met with almost an over thro since the french Troops Passed this place

I am not Able to get Hands to send on with the Cattle that has been brought to this place and without I am furnished with some hard money to hire hands; the Cattle will remain in this neighbourhood;

I am informed to day that all the Cattle that has been Procured in Wash[n] County is com's to this place; Col[o] Steuart Ordered they shou'd Cross Potomack at Nolands ferry below Frederick Town; if they shoud come down here I am sure they Cannot be sent forward

[Eph: Blaine, C. G. S. Williamsburgh To His Excellency Governor Lee] September 27

His Excellency the Commander in Chief approves of three places of Deposit upon the Eastern Shore of your State for the collection of Beef Cattle. Viz. Oxford landing upon Choptank River for the Supplies of Queen Ann, Talbot & Caroline Counties—Vienna upon Nanticoke River for Dorchester, and Snow Hill for the County of Worchester. I will Order Agents to attend at those places to receive and forward the Stores. Your Excellency will please to Order the Contractors to bring in their Cattle to those places agreeable to the Orders they receive from my Agents, and to be punctual in a compliance therewith—they must also provide good pasture convenient to the places of slaughter, and I beg Sir you will give them Orders to afford every necessary Assistance in this Business. I shall order what Public salt remains in your State to be collected to those places but am doubtful it will by no means equal our demand. Packing down Meat at this early Season requires large quantities of Salt. Your Excellency & Council will please to order the purchase of five or Six hundred Bushels, one half of which to be sent to Oxford & the residue to Vienna & Snow Hill.

I shall set out tomorrow for Northampton & Accomack and take those places in my way to Annapolis.

The large Consumption of Provisions in our Army will require the utmost Exertions of every Person who is the least concern'd in procuring Supplies. Your Excellency will please to repeat your Ap-

September 27 plication to the State Commissioners and enjoyn them to be punctual in executing your Orders in the purchase of Provisions.

Number of our Soldiers are falling sick—the Season, Climate, & fatigue our Army will undergo for some time, will oblige the Commander in Chief to Order large quantities of Spirits to be Issued—we shall want a considerable quantity of Whiskey from you as speedily as it can be procured.

The whole Army moves down towards York to morrow morning at five oClock, and its said they will not halt until they are within one Mile of Cornwallis's Works. It is reported he is strongly fortified therefore in a few Days the Opperations of both Armys will become very serious.

September 27 [Deposition of John Mills]

Ann Arundel County To wit

On the 27 day of September 1781 John Mills personally appeared before me one of the Justices of the peace for the County aforesaid and made Oath that he Entered himself in the Select Militia in Saint Mary's County before the Draught for Receiving Two Battalions took place in that County and that he hath Considered himself bound as one of the Select Militia of Saint Marys County

Allen Quynn

September 27 [David Poe, D. Q. M., Baltimore, to Gov. Lee.] (Pr Capt Harrison)

The Bearer hereof Capt Harrison waits on your Excellency for orders, his Vessel being loaded with 400 B^bls^ Bread and Flour for the Army in Virginia, you will Please to give him the Necessary Directions, where to proceed to unload his Cargo.

September 27 Red Book No. 27 Letter 141 [Pat. Sim Smith, Calvert, to Gov. Lee.]

I yesterday sent off my second Drove of Fifty head of Beef Cattle for George Town, the first were delivered safe and I have a Receipt from the Quarter Master then for them. I shall continue the Collection with all possible expedition, and as it would be of great advantage to have the Cash to pay down for the whole, could it be spared I shall be very glad of a Supply by return of the post. I did suppose from the Troops going down by Water that there would be no Occasion to send any more Beef to George Town, and wrote last week on that Subject. Must beg therefore to be inform'd if I am still to Continue sending them there or if not, where they were to be deposited.

September 27 Red Book No. 27 Letter 142 [Sam. Smith, Balt., to Gov. Lee.]

According to my Late orders I Have Bo^t^ & nearly made up the quantity of shirts order^d^ & about 120 Blankets which will be for-

warded by first opp^y^ together with one Hundred Coats & Vests. Mr Gillmore has 14 Doz. of yarn Hose which he offers at Ten Hard Doll^s^ ꝑ Doz. to Credit six weeks. I shall be glad to receive your Excell^cys^ orders respecting the purchase

September 27
Red Book
No. 27
Letter 142

[H. Hollingsworth, Head of Elk, to His Excell'y Thomas S. Lee Esqr.]

September 28
Red Book
No. 30
Letter 40

I wrote you the 25th acquainting of the circumstances of things at that time, since which I have waited on Col^o^ Yeates to receive the Cattle (on hand) (about 200 Head) which he declines receiving, and gives me for answer that his orders are to receive Beef Slaughtered and Barreld up, and not Cattle as this may throw both him and myself into fresh difficulties. I'le thank you to be particularly pointed in this matter; and also on the Subject of Forage as your orders to me is to supply Col^o^ Yeates with what Forage he may want (which I have done) but whether does this include all pasturage as well as Forage. (long and short) if it does I shall want more money and a considerable part of it of the hard kind, as the other wont pass at all out of the State (where we are obligd to go for considerable part of our pasture and Hay) nor have I been able to buy one Bushell of Corn without engaging to give half, and in many instances the whole amount in hard money, pray direct me in these particulars.

P. S. Our Sheriff and Comissioners have refus'd every Certifycate given for Forage (and pasturage) which makes the people in this County refuse to take Certifycates for those articles.

[Stephen Steward, West River, to Gov. Lee.]

September 28
Red Book
No. 27
Letter 143

Perhaps before this you may be Informed the situation of Mr Thomas Tillard Mill the House is so bad nothing Can be kept Dry In it I am tould Grat Part of the Wheat that was Caryed to it In the fore Part of the sumer is now lying Rotting In it and what flower thay have maid Prety ny In as bad a way as the Wheat the flower is so bad thay have bin Heving it out to the Hoggs the People are now Caring In thare Nice wheat and a Puting it among it among the old Rotten wheat so the Publick will lose boath Nice and old that Mill has not Watter to grind more then fore months In the year.

[Tho. McKean, President of Congress, Philadelphia to His Excellency Governor Lee.]

September 29
Red Book
No. 9
Letter 121

Your Excellency will receive inclosed herewith the copy of an Act of Congress of the 28th instant, respecting all the General Officers who may be inhabitants of your State, which it is hoped will be pleasing to them.

September 29 [Ja^{s} Calhoun, Com^{y} Genl W. Shore, Baltimore, to Hezekiah Reeder Esqr Com^{y} of Provisions, Charles County]

Our Army in Virginia are in great want of Provisions therefore I must request that you will immediately forward to George Town what Flour you may have in your County belonging to the State (if it is not already done) and not loose a moment in having the Wheat that is yet to grind Manufactured into Flour and sent there also, as well as the Beef Cattle that you were directed to Collect by the Governor & Council to assist you in forwarding the Flour &c I have inclosed an Impress warrant which you can make use of if necessary.

I am ordered by the Governor & Council to give directions to the several Commissaries to purchase good Flour not exceeding 16/8 ꝑ C^{t} payable in the late Emission or to procure by Loan immediately a quantity of Wheat or Flour payable in kind as soon as Collected by Taxes for which Certificates are to be granted bearing an Interest of 8 ꝑ C^{t} untill paid if the Lenders require it. These Directions please to Comply with as far as in your power

September 30 Red Book No. 29 Letter 51 [Danl Jenifer, Portobacco, to His Excellency Thos. Sim Lee Esqr]

I some time ago wrote to your Excellency to supersede me in the Office of Register of Wills for Charles County; I must again repeat that request, and hope that the Governor and council will do it without delay. I shou'd be glad if agreable to your Ex^{cy} and the Council, that Mr John Muschett was appointed in my stead.

[September] [Benj. Griffith, Comssy, to the Council.]

I have us'd every Argument in My Power to Get an Assistant to Procure Flesh Provisions Since I Receiv'd your Orders to Procure fifty head (which was the 26th of August I Receiv'd the Letter) and Can Gett no one to Undertake and to do it, My Self is Impossible and do the Other Buisness as it Ought to be done and I Cannot Undertake it. the People begin to pay their October Tax and as I am Receiver of Wheat into My Mill and have to Give Sartificates for all the Wheat Received into Other mills and the flour to Collect and Deliver in All hurry Buisness Enough for Anny two Men to do and keep the Acc^{ts} and one or two Mistakes May take all My Commistion. If you would Order the Lite horse Company in the forrest who have all Good horses to Purchase or seaze I believe part of the 400 Cattle might be Gott and not Otherwise I do not think half that Number of Cattle Can be Procured in this County for the Buchers are Constantly bringing in for the Supply of this Place

P. S. The Cash shall be Deliver'd to anny one your Honours will Please to Order it paid to.

[Moses Rawlings to Gov. Lee.] [September]

I have Just received a Letter from the Commissary General of Provisions, requesting me to forward all the Flour in Washington County to Baltimore & George Town, and as I cannot Hire Waggons to Transport it your Excellency will be pleased to send me a warrant Authorising me to Impress Waggons for that purpose. Your Excellencys Letter of the 5th Inst came to hand yesterday and you may rest assured that nothing in my power shall be wanting to Expedite the Business in getting the Cattle, and sending them to Fredericksburgh as directed, I have already got some and expect to have a Hundred at least by Saturday night I am now out and shall not return Home untill I get the Number wanted I am very sorry to inform your Excy that the Red Mony at present does not pass current in Washington County

[Petition of William Watson To his Excellency Thomas S. Lee Esqr Governor and the Honorable the Council] [September]

The humble Petition of William Watson of Cecil County Sheweth That your Petitioner having been at last march Court presented by the Grand Jury of his County for selling strong Liquors by the small Quantity without License to keep Ordinary; on four several Presentments; hath since been informed of the Nature of his Offence and the Penalty annexed both which he was entirely ignorant of before.

That your Petitioner having purchased two Barrels of Brandy retailed the whole last winter by the Galon, Quart and sometimes by the Pint, but never in a less Quantity, not imagining the same to be contrary to Law; the Custom of Ordinary Keepers being by the half Pint and Gill, nor did your Petitioner ever suffer or permit tippling in his house.

That your Petitioner has a large small family; and if compelled to pay the fines and fees on the aforementioned Presentments, will be unable longer to support his family; but must either Pine away in Goal or sell all his Substance.

Your Petitioner therefore most humbly prays your Excellency and Honors to order a Noli Prosqui to be entered against the fore Presentments aforesaid and your Petitioner as in Duty bound shall ever Pray William Watson

We the Subscribers hereby testify that we were Summoned to give Testimony to the Grand Jury at last March Court and being asked concerning William Watsons selling Liquor gave the Information on which he hath been presented as appears by our Names set as Witnesses to the Presentments and that when we bought the Liquor we did not imagine that it was against the Law, and we are fully perswaded, that he thought he might have sold by the Pint or Quart.

[September] We further witness that we are his near Neighbours and we never knew that he permitted People to stay about his house to drink

W^m [Crookshank?] Matthew Logan Moses Crabstone

We the subscribers Do certify that William Watson the within Mentioned Petitioner hath behaved himself inoffencively and orderly and we believe that he hath herein truly represented his Case and we recommend him to the Notice of your Excellency and Honors more especially as he hath been a Deserter from the British Army, about the Commencement of the Present war and we believe his Mistake arose from a vulgar Error of People which we now apprehend will no longer exist

Ja^s Maxwell	Andrew Willock
Samuel Kilpatrick	Thos Russel
William Brumbiel	John Guffey
Arthur Allexander	Matthew [Malaklaun?]

October 1 [Doct^r Ephrm. Howard of H^y, Elk Ridge, to the Gov. & Council.]

By the waggon you will receive one hundred and seven shovels forty spades and fifty four Pick axes. The spades and pick axes are well steel'd the shovels are not steel'd, not conceiving it necessary. My manager informs me the spades are not so neatly finished as he could wish; in consequence of the workmen hurrying themselves to furnish as many as possible this week; tho' the quality not in any manner inferior & they will answer the purpose intended equally well. The spades are made with sockets as they are sooner finished & will answer equally as those made otherways & have this advantage should a handle brake another can be easily put in, a circumstance of consequence in the Army. The manager writes me that the ensuing week, he can supply a considerable larger number than now sent; also will furnish a few dozen axes & some hatchets; several circumstances combined last week which impeded expediting the business. When the next parcel are sent down, I shall send or bring the acc^t

October 2 [Doct^r James Murray to His Excel^y Govr Lee in Council respecting Mr. Muir a Draught from Dor. County]

From the appearance of the wound on Mr Muir's Leg & the Testimony he has produced from several Gentlemen on whose Veracity there is the strongest reliance I am induced to believe that he is incapable of severe Active Duty in the Field as a Soldier.

[Memo of Richard Conway to Mr. James Adam and John Langden] October 4

Brig Alexandria, Burthen Eighty Tons or Thereabouts mounts 12 Carriage Guns Six pounders Each. Commanded by Capt John Thos Boucher with Forty men.

N. B. The Brig Alexandria is owned by John McLure, Robt T. Hooe, Robt Adam and Richd Conway.

[Thos Beall of Geo for T. Richardson, Geo. Town, to His Excellency Thos. S. Lee Esqr] October 4

Please inform me how the pasturage of Cattle is to be Settled and at what price whether I am to pay them money or Certificates there has been a good many Waggons Impres'd to haw^{l} flour, the People calls on me for payment, shall I settle with them, give Certificates or am I to pay them money

There is no Liquors to be procured in this County I am informed that Messrs Rawlings & Price are likely to do something Clever in this way

our New Money will not pass Current here at present, the general Cry is hard Stuff. I am hardly able to hire a Single hand to store flour for the new money, but am in hopes as soon as the Sheriffs begins their Collections it will give the money in some Measure a New life.

[Chas. Blake, Corsica, to His Excel. Thos. Sim Lee] October 5

First by Mr Middleton and then by Mr Bast I inform'd y^{r} Excell: that I had 369 head of Cattle 55 of which I sent off by Middletons Boat the rest remain on land; and as I before inform'd are losing fast the pastures being all gone. I should be happy in getting y^{r} orders what to do with them. Col^{o} Blaine desired me to kill and send them to York by Vessels he was to send, but I have never yet seen the Vessels, and suppose by his not sending they are not wanting there; unless something is done with them very soon I shall have the Mortification of sending (instead of fine beef when procur'd) nothing but bones. If they should be wanting to the Southward please to order the officer in Annap: to send Vessels for them as there are none here. I can have them all kill'd and salted on board in seven days.

[P. S.] Immediate orders would be a great saving of beef.

[Dan'l Jenifer, Port^{o}, to Gov. Lee.] (By Mr. Verdin) October 5 Red Book No. 29 Letter 52

Your Letter of the 29th Ult^{o} I yesterday rec^{d} and shall send off the horses to-morrow there is among them a small Bay horse with a Roan tail if he shou'd be thought under size, I will gladly exchange

October 5 Red Book No. 29 Letter 52 an Excellent stout well made Draught horse for him, which I think wou'd render the state much more service than the little horse. Mr Vardin has seen the horse and knows him & can describe his qualities. His being very mischiveous is the reason of my wanting to part with him.

If your Excy and the Council shou'd approve the exchanges I shall be obliged by the little horse's being sent down by Verdin and the other shall be sent up as soon as he gets fat which he is not at present, being a good deal Worried in treading out wheat. I will also thank your Excy for about an hundred or an hundred and fifty pounds of the new money to pay for forage pasturage &c.

October 5 [C. Th. Wederstrand, Wye to Honble Matthew Tilghman Esqr In Council Talbot County]

Col. Blaine requested me this evening to send a letter he had from Your Honble Board, directed to Mr Henry Coursey, which having done, I received the inclosed letter & transmit it for your perusal judging the present Service requires it.

October 5 [Inclosure]

[Henry Coursey, E. B. Works, to Mr. C. T. Wedestrandt]

You may inform Colo Blaine that I have not any salt at present and shall not make more this fall than I have ingaged to the farmers in the Neighbour Hood.

October 6 [Joseph Dashiell, Worcester County, to Gov. Lee.] (Pr Mr. Parker)

The Barer Mr Scarbrough Parker, Brings up Sundry Desartors & Draughts &c. and as we ware oblidged to send a guard we thought it advisable to send a Capt. West a prisoner Taken by Capt. Walley sum time ago, he aledges that he was the Capt of one of the Enemys Barges but I am of Oppinion that his Commission is a Counterfeit, his Conduct Since he has bin in Gaol proves him to be a Very low life Dirty Blackgard.

I sent up by the Barge the week before last Sundry Draught & substitutes, several of the latter has Returned with Out any Discharge from your Excellency or Genl Smalwood, and Inform me that the Genl would not receive them as they ware Only to serve till the 10 Decr they ware Substitutes for the men Last Draughted, they ware not Oblidg'd to find Substitutes for any longer time then they had to serve, I should be glad of Your Direction, wheather these men that have recd a bounty, are not to serve their time Out.

The people of this County would be Very Glad to know Your Excellencys Determination relitive to Levin Dishroon, the Criminal now under Sentence of Death in Our Gaol, the Gaol is so bad that

we are Oblidge to keep a gard Constantly Over him, and he is all the prisoner that is now in Our Gaol. October 6

NB. The public Corn in this County will all be lost if it is not Dispos'd of I rote you abought it sum time ago should be Glad of your answer.

[John Gordon, James River, Trebells Landing, To The Honorable James Brice, Esq. Annapolis.] (By the Hetty, Capt. Cramphin) October 6 Red Book No. 28 Letter 17

I make no doubt but his Exelency with the H. Council is much surpriz'd with the detention of the Plater. She came safe as far as the enterence of the River where wee met with a Ship which had on board his Exelency General Washington, our delay by Gen[l] Lincoln was so late in the night that I refus'd to proceed without a Pilot up the River when he order[d] me to follow Cap[t] Hall who had on board one of the first Pilots belonging to the River with his Exelency's Baggage & that there was no danger, but after a few hours the Plater with many others were run on shore by mistake of the Pilot, where she now lays in a most dangerous situation. I have done everything in my power to git her a float, but with out effect, I have made application to Gen. Lincoln & his Exelency for Assistance but can git none they being employed on other matters, the inhabit[ts] will not suffer their Negroes to assist, they themselves being disaffected, the consequence from every apper[s]; I am afraid is against the Boats ever geting off I have continued by her 16 days expos'd to every sort of weather (& yet could git her a flot if asst[s] could be obtain'd) without the least damage. I likewise have made application to Comodore Barron, but to no purpose. (I am distrest in every respect) neither Victuals or drink, or Credit, nor am I allow'd to draw.

As this opportunity is in a moment going for Baltimore I cannot observe to you any farther particulars, but shall with every possible effort endeavour to git her on Float, as I am about to git some negroes to assist to the approbation of their masters. There is nothing prevents her giting off but the want of some nails to stop a leak in her Gar board seem, as she is now a float allmost every high Water, the leak was occasion'd by being washt off the Blocks after raising her out of the Sand.

I shou'd have been more particular but the Boat is under Way

P. S. Every thing here is a profound secret with respect to when the Siege will open, but it is generally believ'd will be on Monday, when a Batt[y] on our side will open with 200 (or near that) pieces of 18[pds] & 24[pds] w[t] 10. 13[inch] morters which will fire 10 times a minute. This is on the American side. The French has a far superior Artil[y]

October 6 Red Book No. 28 Letter 17

Tarlton two nights ago like to have been taken, 50 of his men kild & wounded, himself dangerously in the Back. Great desertion from the English, Cornwallis has doubled his Rations; which is lookt on as a favourable Matter on our side His Men has anything they ask for.

October 6

[Geo. Lux, Baltimore, to His Exc^y Governor Lee In Council]

In compliance (as I conceive) with my duty as a Citizen, and the Oath I have taken to support our present happy Constitution to the utmost of my power, I have the honour to inform your Exc^y & the Honble Executive Council of this State, that on the late Alarm Col. Isaac Hammond of the Soldiers Delight Battalion of Militia of this County appeared to misbehave in such a manner as at any rate to require a trial—the Company of Militia, in which I am an Officer, particularly clamoured for a Court Martial upon him & as no other Person would step forth, I thought it my duty to take an active part upon the occasion—I therefore drew up 3 pointed charges against Col. Hammond, mentioned the evidences I wished to summon in order to prove them, and handed them in to the Lieutenant of our County, demanding a Court Martial—Genl Buchanan knew appearances were against Col^l Hammond, and would have been glad to have given him an opportunity (if innocent) to evince it, or to make an example of him, if guilty, but he thought he had no power to arrest an Officer in order to bring him to trial, except when on duty, & the Militia were discharged, before I reported Col. Hammond—

The purport therefore of this letter is to require the opinion of the Honble Council, whether Genl Buchanan has a power or not to call a Court Martial in the present instance, and I have the firmest confidence in the rectitude of their determination—I arraigned Col. Hammond upon the 3 following charges

1st Disobedience of Genl Buchanan's positive orders in not forming his Battalion in Brigade.

2dly Drunkenness, when on duty

3dly Ungentlemanly Behaviour unbecoming an officer—

I hardly know Col. Hammond even by sight, and have & can have no private motives, pique or resentment to gratify, for I belong not to his Battalion.

October 6

[David Poe, D. Q. M., Baltimore, to Gov. Lee.] (Pr Capt. Handy)

The bearer Capt James Handy have Charge of 500 Bb^ls flour for the use of the Army in Virginia.

You will please to give him Directions what River to sail for to Discharge his Cargo.

[Edward Gaither Jr, Elkridge, to His Excellency Thomas Sim Lee Esqr] October 7

Please to give Mr David Stewart an order on the Treasury in my favour for thirty five Pounds to enable me to settle up my Commissarys Acc^{ts}

[Ephrm. Howard of (H^{y}), Elk Ridge, to the Council.] October 8

I send you down 48 pick axes 50 spades 50 axes & 140 shovels I shall be down the last of the present week or the forepart of the ensuing, when I shall lay my acc^{t} before you for the articles supplyed & waggonage. I flatter myself the quality will please. In case you shall in future want any thing in my way, you will be kind enough to give me timely notice by which, I shall be enabled to supply you at leisure, and in the best manner. Nothing gives me greater pleasure than to contribute to the advantage of my country in any manner that I am capacitated to serve it.

[T. Yates, Baltimore, to His Excellency Thomas Sim Lee Esqr] (honor'd by Luther Martin Esqr) October 8

By Luther Martin Esqr Your Excellency will receive three hundred & Seventy three pounds fourteen shillings & three pence specie, it being money which I have received on Acco^{t} of the Lots on Whetstone Point, but from Col^{o} Ramseys Letter to Your Excellency of the 6 Current you'll find I had directions from him to keep the above Cash untill further order, but meeting with so good Conveyance (as Mr Martin) I have taken the Liberty of sending it down to Annapolis which I hope will meet your approbation

[Walter Hanson, Jno Dent, Richd Barnes, W. H. Jenifer, Portobacco To His Excellency Thomas Sim Lee Esqr] October 9

Danl Jenifer Esqr the present Register of Wills for Charles County having informed us that he had written to your Excel^{y} & the Council desiring that he might be superceded in that office. If therefore no appointment has already been made to fill his place, we beg leave to recommend to your Excellency Mr John Muschett as a person well qualified for the business and who now acts as deputy Register.

[D. Jenifer, Portobacco, to Honble Major Genl Smallwood, Annapolis] October 11 Red Book No. 29 Letter 53

This will be handed to you by Doctor Harrison, who has Lived upwards of three years with my Son, and is a Gentleman of real Merit. He wants to be intruduced as a Mate to some Regimental Surgeon, or interne of the hospital, the latter he won'd prefer. If

October 11 Red Book No. 29 Letter 53 you cou'd Sir by your address get him an appointment; it wou'd be doing the young Gentleman a kindness, and lay an Additional obligation on your aff^te^ Friend & Servt

P. S. I am told that you are about to go to head Quarters, shou'd you take your Baggage Waggon I will thank you to let me throw into it a few articles of Cloathing for my son who will be ordered (I am inform'd) to S. Carolina; where the hospital stands in Great need of Surgeons. There is a Bal. of last years Cloathing, of a Jackett & Breeches, for which the Com^ry^ of Cloathing had a Regular order. The full allowance of this year is still due & in all probability there will not be shortly so favorable an opp^ty^ You will oblige Danl much by applying to the Governor & Council for them. Excuse this add^l^ trouble

October 11 [Dr Wm H. Jenifer to the Honble Major General Smallwood, Annapolis]

Dr Harrison who has lived with me upwards of three Years will have the Honor of handing this to you. He will make You acquainted with the Business that carries him to Annapolis.

I can safely say for the Young Gentleman, that ever since he lived with Me, he has been remarkably studious, and attentive to Business & I am satisfied is at this Time better qualified as to medical chirurgical knowledge for a Surgeoncy in the Line or Hospital, than many who now fill those places. I could add many Encomeums on his Conduct but as you are in some measure acquainted with Mr Harrison & know something of his Character, it is unnecessary for me to enlarge.

Shall we have the Happiness of seeing you before You go to Camp? It would give much satisfaction to every Body in Charles, and none more than Dear General Your very respectful Servt

October 11 [Thos. Beall of Geo. for T. Richardson, Geo. Town, to His Excellency Thos. S. Lee Esqr]

Inclosed you have Septem^r^ Return of Forage and Provisions Procured in this County; and from the short notice I had I am happy to inform you that there was no want, for neither Provision nor Forage when the Troops pased here on their way to Virg^a^

I have Collected in this County 200 head Cattle which have dele^d^ to Col^o^ Joshua George A. D. Q. M. at this place; Col^l^ George has sent forward the Cattle as fast as they come, to Head Quarters there was five Sloops and Schooners Arrived here last night for flour they will Carry about 1000 Barrels; they will all be loaded by to-morrow Evening.

dont believe I shall be able to get any more Cattle in this County, without greatly distressing the People; our County has been seling all this Spring and Summer to the Butchers at Baltimore and Anna^s^

which has made Cattle fit to slaughter very scarce, I have no prospect of geting any Liquors: red money has almost ceased Circulating hard money is the General Cry; October 11

[H. Hollingsworth, Head of Elk, to His Excellency Thomas S. Lee, Esqr.] October 11 Red Book No. 30 Letter 46

And please your Excellency and Honours Your Letters of the 24th of September the 9th of October I received and immediately sent of an Express with the necessary directions to the Several Commyrs of this shore to have the orders therein executed, fully intending to follow as soon as the messenger returnd or as soon as I had accomplished my design here which was to get the Wheat collected and collecting in this County to Mills where it could be Immediately Manufactured and to borrow all the flour I possibly could on state account knowing there was none below. The difficulties which now offers in supplying our Army with Flour presented themselves to me as fully six weeks ago as now which I did myself the Honour of advising your Excellency of in my Letters of the first 15th and 25th of Septembr and every means in my power has been useing ever since to prevent it, but being confined to this place where only wheat can be manufactured at this dry season, I have been obliged to do my business below by letter and with much difficulty have done a very little here, for want of vessels to forward the wheat from the County commissaries, and I must say have been much disappointed in those I obtained, to give you a detail of which would be rather disagreeable at present, shall therefore only inform you of my present prospect which is that I have been able to borrow about 200 Barrels of flour half of which is delivered the other half making, I had not one bushell of wheat (at Mills that could grind it) on the 15th of September so that the wheat I have since received must go to pay for the Flour borrowed, unless I can borrow again, I could get wheat in plenty here I believe I could get it ground into Flour as I am determin'd to insist on those Mills that have water shall grind nights and Sundays, but this I must stay here to look to myself, otherways it will not be done, therefore I must intreat that you dispense of my going the Tour through the Eastern shore at present, as I can do more good Essential Service here in one week than in three any where else this being the only place at present that business can be done at, and should I leave it the business would not go so well; must therefore Intreat that such of the wheat as cant be manufactured below be sent me here, and the vessels shall be either returned for more wheat or Loaded with flour for the Army—heretofore the Vessels has been so taken up by the Troops and stores that this business has been much retarded, every thing in my power has been, and shall continue to be done and as soon as the Service will admit of it shall immediately visit the several Posts on the Eastern shore,

October 11
Red Book
No. 30
Letter 46

P. S. it gives me pleasure to inform your Excell^{cy} and Honours that the Special Council of the Eastern shore has appointed Mr Richd Tilghman the 4th to assist the business below as tis impossible I can properly attend there and here both at this Juncture.

October 11
Red Book
No. 27
Letter 146

[Pat Sim Smith, Calvert, to Gov. Lee.]

I have just received your Orders for sending the Horses collected in this County to the care of John Bullen Esqr my being from home prevented my receiving it sooner, I have Collected five for the Draught—four of the latter were sent up some time past—they still want one of the number of draught Horses I was ordered to Collect. Should such a Horse be now wanted I can get one immediately have hitherto neglected it, on a presumption that there might not be Occasion for them. The Horses are not all at present in my care, some being at pasture in the Lower part of the County. However shall get them up & will Send the whole to Annapolis the last of this or first of the next week at farthest.

October 11
Red Book
No. 27
Letter 145

[George Stricker, Frederick Town, to the Council] (favoured by Geo: Bare, Junr.)

I received Yours of the 29th Ul^{t} a few days ago and Agreeable to your request I send by the Bearer George Bare Junr Twelve of the State Horses to John Bullen Esqr fourteen was the number remaining one of which about two weeks ago was taken with a Swelling in the neck which Turned out to be a fistula it is with the farrier and is recovering fast the Other I left in the Persons hand seized from who Promised deliver it when called for. It was unfortunately gone from home on a Journey when the Orders of the Board arrived but will return in a few days and as I intend to Annapolis in a few weeks to settle my Acc^{t} I shall bring the two above mentioned with me or do with them as you shall please to direct. I should have sent them several Days sooner but was prevented on Acc^{t} of Hard Money to bear the Expences which I Borrowed of two Indifferent Persons the sum is four Pounds which I should be Glad to have remitted me by the Bearer and thirty shillings the sum Contracted with the Person who brings the Horses which Money I shall Account for in my Settlement

October 11

[George Webb, Council Chamber Virginia, to Governor Lee]

We had the honor of your Excellency's favor of the 27th September which came to hand yesterday in the absence of Governor Nelson; the Business was immediately pressed on the Continental Quarter master for this State, in whose Department the impressments were made without the knowledge of the Executive: We take the liberty to inclose you his Answer on the subject, and hope he has given satisfaction to the Proprietors of the waggons and Teams.

[Extract of a letter from the Continental Quarter Master for this State, to the Board] October 10

Richmond 10th Octo^r 1781

I had the honor to receive your favor of this morning, inclosing a letter from his Excellency the Governor of Maryland to His Excellency the Governor of Virginia, dated the 27th September. The waggons and teams mentioned, were impressed by the Clerk to the Assistant Deputy Quarter Master at Staunton, and forwarded to this place with Flour for the Army before York Town. I am sorry that the Gentleman exceeded his authority by taking the property of another State, as my instructions extended no farther than Virginia, as did his Excellency Governor Nelson's warrant, in consequence of which an impressment was made for waggons for the Continent. I have given orders that the Waggons, teams, & Geers shall be immediately returned to their respective owners, and shall give such instructions throughout the department, as shall prevent every thing of the kind in future. I beg leave to assure you Gentlemen, that it is my wish to have harmony, and a good understanding kept up in the point you recommend, and trust that you will communicate to his Excellency Governor Lee that this, with every other matter which comes before me, in which any Subject of the State of Maryland may be interested, shall be satisfactorily settled, as far as I have it in my power.

[G° Washington, Head Quarters Before York, to His Excellency, Governor Lee.] October 12 Brown Book No. 1 Letter 44

I was yesterday honored with your Excellency's favor of the 3^d Give me leave to return you my sincerest thanks for your exertions on the present occasion. The supplies granted by the State are so liberal, that they remove every apprehensions of want. Col° Blaine has gone himself over to the Eastern shore to see that the Cattle from thence are brought down to the proper landing where they will be slaughtered, and the meat sufficiently salted to be transported by Water. Proper measures have been taken by the Commissaries to receive the Cattle of the Western Shore, and to have them driven by Land. Arrangements have also been made to send up the Craft for Flour as fast as they discharge their lading of stores.

I will desire Col° Stewart to send up all the empty Flour Barrells that can be made of further use.

We opened our first parallel on the night of the 6th and established it compleatly with a loss too trifling to mention. Our shells have done considerable damage in the Town, and our fire from the Cannon has been so heavy and well directed against the embrasures of the Enemy's Works, that they have been obliged, during the day to withdraw their Cannon and place them behind their Merlens.

October 12
Brown Book
No. 1
Letter 44

The Charon of 44 Gun and two large Transports have been burnt by hot Balls. The Guns and Stores have been previously taken out of the Frigate

We last night advanced our second parallel within 300 yards of the Enemy's Works without the least annoyance from them. Lord Cornwallis's conduct has hitherto been passive beyond conception, he either has not the means of defence, or he intends to reserve himself untill we approach very near him. A few days must determine whether he will or will not give us much trouble.

I have the honor to be with great respect Your Excellency's Most Obed^t Servant

October 13
Red Book
No. 5
Letter 91

[Dan'l Carroll, John Hanson, Phil^a to Gov. Lee.]

The Contents of the inclosd appear of such consequence, that two expresses are immediately to be sent of, one to proceed by land, the other by water from the Head of Elk—we have likewise thought it proper to forward copy, to you, not doubting but that you will think the intelligence of sufficient consequence to require a fast sailing boat to be dispatch'd with it to the Count de Grass, least the Letters sent by the President shou'd meet with some delay.

October 7
Red Letter
Book No. 5
Letter 93

[W. Heath, Head Quarters, Conti^l Village, to His Excellency, the President of Congress.]

Between twelve and one oClock this morning, I received the inclosed intelligence through a Channel which Generally afforded such as has been Authentic. I forward it by Express, and Submit to your Excellency of how much importance it is that the Count de Grasse should have notice of it, if it be possible, in Seeson, a Deserter from the Princessa, Admiral Drakes Ship, came here last Evening. He informed me that when he came away, the troops were embarking at Staten Island—that as he came up to the City, two Scows full of Horses, and one with three peices of Brass Cannon twelve or Eighteen pounders, passed them going down to the fleet

The person who sent me the inclosed intelligence observes—"Inclosed you will receive a letter from one of my old Correspondents which has this moment come to hand, who for particular reasons has been silent for some time. When I tell you it comes from the same person, whose information you frequently received from me while at Newport, you will Judge of the credibillity of his accounts. The destresses of the Tories and loyalists at New York as well as the principal Officers of their Army for Lord Cornwallis is hardly to be described my Correspondent informs me that they put the Issue of the Contest allmost upon his defence or defeat the latter they expect and almost realize his Capture."

[John Stump, Jur, to Gov. Lee & Council] (fav^{d} by Jno Patrick, Esqr) October 13 Red Book No. 27 Letter 147

May it Please Your Excellency & the Honourable Council This will be handed you by John Patrick Esqr one of my Near Neighbours, as he was going down on Business have Prevailed on him to wait upon you with these lines; I Wrote your Excellency & the Honourable Council two Letters some time Since Relative to my Books & Papers, but not Receiving them nor any answer to my letters have taken the Liberty to write y^{r} Excellency & the Honourable Council again on the Subject, Thinking perhaps the other letters might have miscarried or through the Multiplicity of business you might have Forgot the Contents; In my former letters I Requested your Excellency & the Honourable Council to Consider the Disadvantages I Labour under for the want of my Books & Papers; which is what I have now to Request of your Excellency & the honourable Council, and if you think Proper, that it may Please your Excellency and the Honourable Council to have them Carefully Seiled up & Delivered to John Patrick Esqr who will have them Safely Conveyed to me, & as I mentioned in my Former Letters hope Your Excellency & the Honourable Council have found nothing in them Contrary to the Law of this State or any way Prejudicial to the Common Cause of American Liberty.

[Wm Minor, Talbot Court House, to The Honble Mathew Tilghman Esq] October 14 Red Book No. 23 Letter 115

On Fryday Morning Mr Parker & the Gard Left the place & the Prisoners in the Goal, I Continue to give them Victuals &c but shou'd be glad to heare from you about them, as I Expect every night they will break Goal, unless their's a gard Kept

[Edwd Burgess, Corseca to His Excellency Thomas Sim Lee] October 15

May it please Your Excellency Enclosed I have sent a List of the Books of Accounts &c. Late the property of Cunningham Findlay & Company which are contained in a Large Pine Chest, they are delivered to Captain Brock Mockbee the bearer hereof who has engaged to Deliver them to the Treasurer. As our Excellency will be pleased to observe that I have agreed with Captain Mockbee that he shall be paid Six pounds Specie for his trouble in the Conveyance of these Books which I doubt not your Excellency will think a reasonable reward and accordingly order the payment thereof.

A List of the Books of Accompts &c. Late the property of Cunningham, Findlay & Company contained in a Large Pine Chest Viz

14 Day Books 32 Large and Small Bound Books and A parcel of blank Bills of Exchange—delivered to the Care of Capt Brock Mockbee to be conveyed by him to the Treasurer at Annapolis

October 15 [Jas. Calhoun, Baltimore, to the Council.]

I Yesterday received a letter from Col. Stewart Com^{y} Genl of Issues respecting the forwarding of Liquors to the Army, and as I know nothing of that matter having never received any direction on the subject have taken the liberty to enclose a copy of Col^{l} Stewarts letter which although it expresses very great want of Liquors gives me pleasure at the same time with respect to Provision. Our exertions in forwarding flour from this State has certainly been very considerable. From the best information I can collect there has been at least 3000 Barrels sent from George Town & this place since Genl Washington went to Virginia

Yours of the 10th was delivered me and I immediately sent off 44 Barrels of Flour for the Post at Annapolis, which was all that Boat could carry and nearly all the Flour that was here Subject to my orders for as fast as it comes in it is delivered over to the Continental Store Keeper to be forwarded to the Army and after he receives it from the State he cannot deliver it but to a Continental Officer or Issuing Com^{y}, this I mentioned to Col^{o} Stewart & he engaged to appoint a Com^{y} at Annapolis which would have put this business in its proper channel and save your honble Board the trouble of ordering Flour &c. when wanted—but suppose it has not been done.

October 7 [Chas Steward, Commy. Genl. Issues, Camp before York Town, to Jas Calhoun, Esquire, Agent for the Western Shore, Maryland.]

Col^{o} Blaine inform'd me that money was advanc^{d} by the Govr & Council of your State to purchase a quantity of whisky, I am sorry to acquaint you that great is the want of that Article in Camp, and must beg your attention to Collecting and forwarding what may be purchased with all possible dispatch to the Army, the possition of the Troops as well as the real fatigue they undergo, require every support & encouragement you will therefore excuse my pressing sollicitation on the Subject of Supplies particularly spirits, Since my arrival in this State the Troops have not wanted Bread or Meat & the prospect in future is not discouraging in those Articles but much is in regard to Liquors

October 16 [Joshua Burgess of the 4th Maryland Regm^{t} to His Excellency Thomas Sim Lee]

To His Excellency the Governor and Council May it please your Honours.

Necessity compels me to apply to your Honours for relief in my present Situation which is very weak and low, and has been from the time of my return from my Captivity Insomuch that I have from that time been under the Doctors hands. On my return from

New York was compelled to contract some debts to procure necessaries for support which I pledged my honour to pay in hard money, and some I have been compelled to contract since my return, for the same purpose, therefore have to request Your Honours will furnish me with, about £50, as also an order for a Sufficiency of Cloth for a Great Coat, by the bearer my Brother, as I have drawn but little since in the service, and my necessity so urgent flatter myself, Your Honours, will grant my request October 16

[Eph Blaine, C. G., Oxford, To The Honble Mathew Tilghman Esq. President of the Special Council, Talbot Court House] (By Mr Blake) October 16 Red Book No. 32 Letter 34

Your favour by Mr Blake I have just received, and have only to observe that the requisitions of Congress in beef from the respective States is neat beef, and they afterwards add pay for the hide and tallow, this convinces me that the State ought to pay the expence of Slaughtering and that expence will not exceed the cost of procuring hands, paying pasturage while driving the Cattle to places where I would be Justifiable in receiving them.

In the first place it is impossible for me to attend to the slaughtering of the Cattle in the respective Counties, in the second I have not one shilling of money to defray the expence allowing it to be a Continental charge, however as I do not wish to through any difficulty upon your State, shall agree to the following proposals Viz. That if Mr Morris with a Committe of Congress say the expence of Slaughtering the Cattle shall be a charge against the United States, I will pledge my honour to you to see it paid. If that of the State why it is done—any additional expence which may attend the trying of the tallow and procuring barrels to put it in, and drying the hides I shall engage to pay, but be assured the slaughtering of the Cattle lays with the State. I have requested the Commissioners to sell the hides, but would rather wish them to dispose of them to good Tanners who would tan them on the shares—such of the people as will carefully slaughter their Cattle and are dispos'd to keep the fifth quarter I agree to keep the beef but this I leave to your direction, and if the hides and tallow can be saved they are much wanted for the Army.

I have been delay'd exceedingly by unfavourable winds and as there is a prospect of getting down the Bay this morning I am prevented of the honor of waiting on you. The Governor and Council have engaged to send a boat to Mr Blake to load with beef I shall take particular care to send boats to the sundry landing places to take in beef. I have enquired the price of hides at Baltimore and find they will bring four pence hard money ꝑ lb.

I would wish the Commissioners to obtain that sum for what they may sell, making a reasonable deduction for the expence of drying the hides and freight to Baltimore

October 16
Red Book
No. 5
Letter 89

[John Hanson, Dan'l of St Thos Jenifer, and Dan'l Carroll, Philadelphia, to Gov. Lee.]

In consequence of Your Excellencys Letter of the 6th We applied to Mr Bradford the Depty Comry of Prisoners at this Post, who has promissed to do every thing in his power to obtain the exchanges you request, & has already transmitted the Paroles (which your Excellency enclosed) to the Commisrs of Prisoners at Elizabeth Town; as it is not known where those taken from the Enemy now are, we cannot with certainty say, that the exchanges will immediately take place; except as to Daniel Campbell, for whom Mr Bradford had sent a man from this place before your Letter came to hand. You may assure the friends of these unfortunates, that we shall do every thing in our power towards obtaining their releasement from Captivity.

October 18
Brown Book
No. 5
Letter
No. 47

[W. Smallwood, Annapolis to His Excellency Governor Lee]

Doctor Murray has recommended the Persons mentioned below as proper objects for Discharges, judging they will not be fit for Duty before the Time for which they are engaged expires.

Henry Saxon, Calvert County, Substitute Geo. Wheeler
Nicholas Goldsborough, St. Marys, Draught
Solomon Dixon, St. Marys, Draught
Zachariah Newton, St. Marys, Draught
John Holland, Queen Ann, E. Shore, Substitute Henry Spark
Thomas Monnohon, Harford Count., Substitute Tarman Byford
Patrick Owens, Washington County, Substitute Conrod Hogmires

October 18
Brown Book
No. 7
Letter 75
[translated
copy]

[De Grasse, La ville de Paris, to Gov. Lee.]

I have the honor to thank yr Excellency for the news wh you have been pleased to communicate. I have just desired Gen. Washington to send me back my troops of wh probably he will no longer stand in need, as Ld Cornwallis has surrendered, wh perhaps you will not have heard before this reaches you; as soon as they are embarked, I shall quit the Bay of Chesapeake, & I will endeavour still to contribute to the welfare of the U. S. in Stopping if I can, Sir Henry Clinton.

I have the honor to be with the most respectful attachment yr Excellency's most obdt hum. Servt

October 18
Brown Book
No. 2
Letter 15

[W. Smallwood, Annapolis, to Gov. Lee.]

I have thought it necessary to enclose for Consideration of your board, a Copy of a Letter from General Washington, in which you will observe how solicitous he is to have our Quota compleat, and to reinforce the Army under General Greene: it will also point out the Expediency of using every Effort to furnish as early as possible supplies of Money, Cloathing, Arms and Accoutrements, to enable me

to comply with his requisitions, by promoting the recruiting Service, equiping and marching the Levies as soon as they are raised to join the Southern Army. October 18 Brown Book No. 2 Letter 15

I am no Stranger to the want of Resources to accomplish this desirable End, and that the present want of specie, or some other medium must unavoidably retard this Business, yet I wish to call your Attention in the most pointed manner to objects of such Importance, that the most speedy and effectual measures may be adopted to surmout these difficulties, and attain the purposes in view.

The General expects the nine Months Men to be equipped and held ready to march, suggesting that Events may render their Service necessary I am sensible their services can be of little Importance unless they can be better clad; as neither the Law, nor your Stock of Stores on hand admit of this, I shall submit the Propriety of furloughing for eight or ten days all such who can get cloathing at Home, and who may be depended on to return. Should they go into the Field in their present State, I am apprehensive few of them would survive their sufferings, and I am persuaded the State has already, and will sustain the loss of many under this description who went out in the third and fourth Regiments.

It is near a year since any Cloathing or Stores have been sent the Officers and Soldiers of the two old Regiments in Carolina, the former being by this Time relieved, it will only be necessary to supply the latter; they amount I imagine inclusive of the Maryland Artillery to six Hundred; each Man will want a Blanket, Hat, Coat, Vest one pair of Woolen, two pair of Linen Overals, two shirts, two Pair of Shoes, two Stocks, and two pair of Stockings or Socks; the Conduct and Fortitude of these Men under there hardships and sufferings entitle them to the greatest Attention, I must therefore entreat you to make the necessary Provision as soon as possible, that I may have the supplies forwarded as the Season is approaching in which the want of them cannot be dispensed with, at the same time I should be happy in receiving the full Sum in specie directed by the Assembly to be advanced the Officers and Soldiers as soon as it can possibly be made up that the same may be forwarded to those in the Field, and paid to such as remain in the State

It will also be necessary to make up, and forward the defiency of Cloathing due the third and fourth Reg^{ts}; especially Blankets, Woolen Overals, Shirts and Shoes, which will be very essential in the Climate where they now are

[G° Washington, Head Quarters before York, to Major Gen. Smallwood.] October 6 Brown Book No. 2 Letter 16

I have received your favor of the 26th of September I should have esteemed it a fortunate circumstance to have had the pleasure to have fell in with you on my route to Virginia

October 6
Brown Book
No. 2
Letter 16

The 50 men engaged for three years and the war, of the Maryland Line, which you mention I could wish should be moved on as soon as may be, equipped in the best manner you are able to effect; the nine months men are not so necessary perhaps to be sent on immediately, I wish however they may be equipped & held in constant readiness to come on if needed—it is impossible at this moment to foresee all the events which may render their services of importance

General Greene's little army having been so much reduced by frequent Battles and Losses, it is of the utmost importance to recruit the Troops assigned to him in the speediest manner and to the fullest compliment possible I must therefore desire that you will continue your exertions in superintending that service, especially as were you to join me on the present enterprise the several commands are already so filled that I should find it very difficult to dispose you in such manner as I could wish and your merits deserve

I am Dear Sir with esteem your most obed^t^ Servt

October 18
Red Book
No. 27
Letter 148

[Pat Sim Smith, Calvert, to Gov. Lee.]

I shall send off my third Drove of Beef Cattle for George Town early tomorrow morning. I have receipts for one hundred head already delivered them and hope to get away my last Drove in the course of the next week.

The Cattle purchased in this County will amount to between Six & Seven pounds Currency each, upon an average. I have given assurance to the people that they shall have their money Immediately and as they are in want of it to pay their assessments (for which only it is now of any use to them) I shall be glad of a Supply for the purpose by return of the Post, my present Stock being almost exausted. I suppose about £500 more will be nearly sufficient for the purchase & I wish to be informed if I am to settle & pay the assistants & drovers or send these afterwards to Annapolis, these expences will be considerable but could not be avoided—indeed the red money is of so little value now that it is with the utmost difficulty I can employ any person for it.

A Body of the Jersey & other Continental Troops were sometime put on shore at the mouth of Patuxent on their way to Virginia, they were supplied during their stay with State flour from Col° Fitzhughs mill, and the Inhabitants in the neighbourhood furnished them with some Beef and Mutton, for which the Officers gave them Certificates—these they have since sent to me with an Expectation that I am to pay them—have made application for the money alledging that it was Beef they intended to let me have for the State.

However as I apprehend I have nothing to do with it, I have promised those Gentlemen to write your Excellency & Honors on the Subject and must beg to be informed if there is a probability of their being paid & How they are to proceed for that purpose.

I have the Certificates in my possession

[Joseph Ford, St Mary's County, to Gov. Lee.] (Favered by Mr. E. Fenwick) October 20

I should have made returns for last month before this time but have been prevented by a detension of My Book by the Commissioner of the Tax at the Request of Mr Calhoun, for near a month and have only been in Possession of it Two days and was preparing returns to have sent up by express but happening to meet with Mr Edward Fenwick going to Annapolis before they were finished I take that oppertunity to enform your Excellency that the People here have by some means got information that the Commissaries in other Counties are paying the whole for the Beef cattle they collect from the people, this has caused some uneasiness among those that I have had of, and difficulties in my collections

I have purchased of the Two last orders 353 Head 153 I have sent to George Town about Sixty to collect as soon as they can be got together and Branded they shall be sent forward to George Town, which I expect will be some time next week I do not think it will be possible to make up the 500 without distressing the People exceedingly I shall make up 400 without much seizure but if the whole it must be done by Violence In my conclusion I must begg leave To submit a supposition of what 400 Beeves will cost with the expence incur'd in collecting and driving to George Town, and after deducting what money I have received from that sum, I should be Glad that your Honble Board would give An Order for the Ballance or so much of it as may be thought the Counties Proportion, I shall make particular returns of Last and this Months Purchases with an Account of the expences incur'd thereon by the next safe Oppertunity.

400 Beeve each including the 5th q^r 435 @ 4^d is	£2900
expences collecting & Driving to Geo. Town	300
	3200
Cash Rec^d by Post & Coll Forrest	1300
Bal^l	£1900

October 21 [Indorsed, "Col. Hendricks is requested to give this the most speedy conveyance to Annapolis." "Alexandria 28th Oct. 7 o'C P. M. Rec'd & deliver'd Imediately. James Hendicks"]

[Thos Nelson Jr, Camp before York, to Governor Lee]

When I wrote yesterday I forgot to observe to you that the Militia of this State have orders to conduct the British Prisoners allotted for Frederick Town, only to the Borders of your State. Your Excellency will therefore be pleased to make the necessary Preparations for their Reception. I am not so well acquainted with the Geography of the upper Country as to be able to inform you at what Ferry they will cross, but they will be marched by the most direct Route from Winchester to Frederick Town.

October 21
Sunday

[Ja^s Trapnall to Col^o Ed. Cockey]

Take notice that I inform you that I have Join'd Captain Benjamin Nicholson's Troop of light Dragoons and therefore Resign'd my Commission which is Second Lieutennant of Captain Stephen Gales Company of Malitia—

October 22
Red Book
No. 27
Letter 36

[Petition of Henry Cyple of the City of Annapolis To his Excellency Thomas Sim Lee Esqr]

Your petitioners wife was by a certain Mary Logan presented in the General Court for an Assault on the said Mary & an Indictment found thereon.

That in the absence of your Petitioner his wife was perswaded to submit the matter to the Court under a protestation of Innocence, that in consequence thereof & she being wholly Ignorant of court proceedings thought Evidence unnecessary—the court proceeded to Fine her, and did so to the Amount of £15. Specie

That your Petitioner & his wife are well known in this City and he has the happiness to insinuate to your Excellency that they are, and ever have been Esteemed by all their neighbours and acquaintance quiet, peaceable and orderly people.

That from the most indecent and abusive Language accompanied with violent strokes with a stick, so far provoked your Petitioners wife that upon wresting the Stick out of her Hands she returned some of the Blows she had received.

That the said Mary Logan from the vicious habit of Drinking & her ungovernable passions subjects herself to the ridicule of some & to the Pity of others, insomuch that Molly Logan's Capers (as they are called) are become a mere adage.

That if your petitioner had been apprized of the aforesaid Submission & had been in Town, he is Conscious and well assured that he could have procured such Testimony relative to the matter as would have made the invidious machinations of the said Mary recoil with obloquy upon herself.

That if your Excellency should think it expedient or necessary your pet^r by good Evidence could prove that so far from his wife being the Agressor she had like to have become an Innocent Victim to the rage of a Malignant, jealous drunken woman

Your Petitioner therefore prays your Excellency to take the premisses into consideration and to grant him such relief therein, as you in your wisdom shall think just and meet.

[Chas. Blake, Corsica, to His Ex: Thos S: Lee Esqr] October 23
(pr Mr Middleton)

By Mr Middleton I send to Colo Blaine 17729 pounds of Beef Salted as order'd I wish to have Vessels as soon as possible to send off the rest, as they are growing worse. I have 3 large odd of three hundred head, have sent off 55 head by Middleton; as soon as the hurry is over I shall do myself the pleasure to wait on yr Ex: with my Accts but cannot spare time at present

[P. S.] No Vessels to be had here I wish you'd order Vessels as soon as possible.

[H. Hollingsworth, Head of Elk, to His Excellency, Thomas S. Lee, Esqr, In Council.] October 23 Red Book No. 30 Letter 45

And please your Excelly and Honours. Your Several Letters I have been honored with, am very unhappy that I have not had it more in my power to comply with that of the 24th of September, wherein you request me to have the several requisitions of your Honorable Board Executed, and to make a return of the quantity the Several County Commissaries have a certainty of procuring in a short time.

As to the latter I flatter myself we shall be able and willing to comply with the requisitions of your Excellency & Honors, but to say how soon depends on the event of providence large quantitys of wheat is collected and collecting, but the want of water to Manufacture it in the lower Countys, or Vessels to bring it here retards the execution of your orders, and could it be brought here, our streams are now the lowest they ever were in the memory of the oldest man, of course many Mills not able to work, I have given orders to the Several Commissaries to use their utmost exertions and have given them all the powers to impress Vessels waggons &c that you were pleased to Honor me with, and have earnestly Intrusted that they make me returns of the quantity they have a certain prospect of obtaining in a short time, which I doubt not they will do as soon as in their power, but it is a work of some time. I look on it we are obliged to comply with the requisition as soon as possible, the quantity of flour I have been able to deliver since the first of September is about one thousand Barrels at this Post Exclusive of about 200 Delivered at Xteen and Philada apart of which I have borrowed and am paying, and to pay for in wheat, I have been obliged lately to engage to give wheat at Market price and to receive Common Flour at 16/8 ꝑ Ct the common Flour thus received has the Midlings in it (but not the Ship Stuff) I have now six Mills in this County going on in this way, and could I get wheat enough sent me could do a great deal, though am prodiguously pushed for money to buy Casks,

October 23
Red Book
No. 30
Letter 45

nails, pay waggonage, Freight, Baggs, and a number of other things which nothing but my pressure has kept alive, shall as soon as the circumstance will at any rate admit of it make a sale of some wheat or Flour, unless furnished, by your Excellency & Honors, as the red money wont do unless to pay a part of the Tax, and we in this County have been so eaten up by the Army, that we have certificates, enough for that, and should I offer to force it, a depreciation must be the consequence, the people are now calling on me daily with their certificates for pasturage and Forage furnished Col° Yeates and the Army at your request, as this is a matter a Little out of the common road of my first appointment, shall be much obliged to your Excellency & Honors to be enabled to discharge it as I am kept near one half my time unhappy by duners and detained and delayed in my other business, Hay and short Forage is another matter which I am at great difficulty for, Colo. Yeates calls on me for it, and says he has a right to do so, I have no mode of making payment; as the sheriff flatly refuses taking my Certificates for Forage in discharge of Taxes (nor will the commissioners direct him) of course the post must be without Forage unless I stake my private fortune for it, which I have done for above one thousand pounds and am now dunn'd for the money.

Inclosed you have the subscription paper sent me with such Subscribers as I could collect, shall send of a messenger to-morrow to wait on each commissary of this Shore in his County for their Returns to the last of this month, by which messenger I shall further enjoin it, that their prospect for a month to come be containd (as near as may be) which as soon as obtained shall be sent you, this I must do by Messenger express, as should I leave this place to go this Tour (as you were pleased to recommend) every thing must stop here, and I am confident of doing more essential service here, then it is possible for me to do any where else, the few Mills below that can grind will be kept going and the cattle will be slaughtered, and salted no doubt, as it requires little Skill to cure meat to keep one month only, which is the present mode (as tis immediately wanted) Mr Tilghman 4th and the Special Council will I am confident, yield every assistance, and the very first Hour that the Service (here) will by any means admit of it, I will certainly (like the poor widow) add my mite to their Indeavours I am very sorry to write such a long letter but I have so many subjects to Touch on, so many difficulties to encounter, and so little in my Head or hands to do it with, that I flatter myself your Excellency & Honors will Indulge it, and Look on it as the weak efforts and struggles of one desirous to do good, though much Hobbled in difficulties, from which pray Assist to Extricate, Gentlemen Your most devoted & Most obed H^ble Servt

We do hereby become subscribers of the sums affixed to our names, on the scheme for an emission, in pursuance of the act for the emission of bills of credit not exceeding two hundred thousand pounds, on the security of double the value in lands, to defray the expences of the present campaign.

October 23
Red Book No. 30
Letter 45

Subscribers Names	Real Estate in Lands	Houses & Lotts	£
Joseph Gilpin	all his Real Estate		250
Sam[l] Thomas	Part Triple Union		200
H. Hollingsworth	all His Real Estate		500
David Smith	Part of Susquehannah manor		100
Sam[l] Gilpin	Part of a tract of Land call[d] Coxes Park		100
Samuel Maffith	p[t] Vanbibber forrest		100
Stephen Hyland	his real Estate		100
Thos. Huggins	his real Estate		150
Da[d] Ricketts	Real Estate		100

Red Book No. 30
Letter 127
[Printed form signed by subscribers.]

[Petition of George Fleming To His Excellency Thomas Sim Lee Esq[r]]

October 24
Red Book No. 26
Letter 113

The humble petition of George Fleming sheweth that your petitioner being left by his Uncle M[r] Simon Vashon in possession of a house jointly with a certain Mary Coghlan who by her repeated ill behaviour has provoked your petitioner to strike her so that himself & security have forfeited their recognizances amounting to the sum £150 specie for which Sciere facias's have been issued & served, your petitioner being an unexperienced young man not yet of age & dependant on his Uncle for Support who has been absent upwards of two years & is thereby rendered incapable of paying said sum which will consequently fall on his Securitys & greatly distress them unless your Excellency will be pleased to relieve your petitioner from this distressing penalty and as in duty bound your petitioner for your prosperity & happyness will always pray &c.

Wee the Subscribers do recommend the above petitioner to your Excellencys Clemmency.

John Cradock;	Thos. Sollers;	Peter Shepherd.
Rob[t] Lemmon;	And. Buchanan;	
John Moale;	Isaac V. Bibber;	

[Nath. Greene, Head Quarters, high hills of Santee, to Gov. Lee.]

October 24
Brown Book No. 8
Letter 12
[Indorsed: "referred to the Comm. on the recruiting service"]

Inclosed I send you a Return of the troops belonging to your State serving with this Army, and I am happy to hear of a considerable force having arrived in Virginia under General Gist, & joined General Washington in his operations against Lord Cornwallis. Those reinforcements could they have reached us a little earlier would have been of great importance; for the want of which I have been in the greatest distress, however by patience and perseverance

October 24
Brown Book
No. 8
Letter 12
[Indorsed: "referred to the Comm. on the recruiting service"]

we have overcome all difficulties. The gallant behavior of your line in the last action, places them in the highest point of military glory.

This appears to me to be a Crisis of American affairs. If General Washington is successfull against Lord Cornwallis, which hardly admits of a doubt, it will afford leisure and opportunity to the united States, provided they improve it properly, of preparing themselves to meet the enemy upon more equal ground than they have contended with them for a long time past, not to say, from the begining of the War. I hope Maryland will loose no time in compleating her line to the establishment it will give security to herself & proper aid to her distressed neighbours, who have suffered more by the war than she has.

I wish you an honorable and happy administration, beloved by your friends & feared by your enemies.

With sentiments of esteem & regard, I have the honor to be Sir Your most obedient Humble Servant

October 24
Red Book
No. 27
Letter 149

[Stephen Steward & Jno. Dorsey & Co., Annapolis, to the Council.]

We are informed that about 100 Ships & Briggs have been Captured at York and are the property of our Ally. If the Board incline to Purchase any Vessells of Force for Defence of the Bay, or any Vessells to Export—Mr Stephen Steward Junr will if authorised, endeavour to Buy of Count De Grass such Vessells as the Governor & Council may Direct, the Purchase Money payable in Flour or Tobacco. As we propose to empower Mr Steward to Purchase Vessells for us to the Amount of £8000 Specie, We should Esteem it as a Perticular favour if the Board would give Mr Steward an Introduction to the Count De Grasse with an Assurance that his Contracts not Exceeding the above sum will be Punctually Complied with.

October 25

[Rich'd Dallam, Harford County, to Gov. Lee.]

The New money has no Credit in this County not an Article is to be procured with it

Mr Osborn by the approbation and Consent of the Commissioners [damaged] the Commission Business. I am named as Commissary at their request because they could not appoint Mr Osborn he being Collector, Mr Osborn informs me that he was obliged to sell four head of Cattle at Baltimore But of the last drove to enable him to send the remainder on, he applyed to Mr Calhoun but could get no assistance. He has sent off upwards of 100 & has an other drove to send on but cannot get drovers He tells me it will be impossible to procure the whole Number of Cattle required without taking 2 years old & striping the people of the Provisions necessary for their Families. He has had much trouble in collecting Cattle

I know & experience that meat is very scarce in this County. Your Excellency will Please to give what assistance is possible to enable him to do what can be done

My situation is distressing I have staked my Credit & sold my Property for payment of debts & am still subject & am threatned with such on public Acc^t and a late Act of Assembly deprives me even of the hopes of being enabled to pay. I have flour on hand on which are due considerable sums for Cash Cartage &c. October 25

It has been out of my power to forward it not a Vessel to be had the greater part is sour'd Some Wheat still remains there not being water for the Mills to grind, Could I get from the Sherif the money for wheat I have grantd Executions for the 15 ꝑ C & 4/ Taxs I might thereby be enable to goe on, but he does [not] I believe think ever of paying it in, tho' he must long agoe have received the money. I shall be Pleased to hear how I can get it out of his hands

[Pat Sim Smith, Calvert, to Gov. Lee.]

October 25
Red Book
No. 27
Letter 150

I yesterday received a letter from Mr Calhoun the Commissary General dated the 29th Septr requiring me to send the Flour remaining in the County immediately to George Town to be Conveyed to the Army, where it was much wanted. As this is a round about way, to York where the Army lay, and I apprehend there will be a change in the Arrangement from the late Glorious Event. I shall decline sending it that Route, and must request the direction of Your Excellency & Council where it shall be deposited as it may be some time before I could hear from Mr Calhoun.

I have now a large Quantity of wheat on hand & Cant get it manufactured for the want of Barrells, I have taken every Step in my power to procure them without Effect, there being no Coopers here who will undertake to supply me, and unless I can be furnished from Annapolis or else where, fear a great part of the wheat will be lost. I have received £600 Cash by Mr Woolfe, I sent off my third Drove of Cattle for George Town on Friday last and am now Collecting the last drove which will be ready in a few days. I shall wish to know if they are to be sent to the same place or where else.

I will send a list of the Flour used by the Continental Troops whilst at the mouth of Patux^t with the certificates for that & the other provision they seized, to the Auditor General as soon as I get the whole together.

[Stephen Steward to the Council.]

October 26
Red Book
No. 27
Letter 144

We are much Disappointed In giting a boat to Cary Stephen and Captain belt Down the Bay to Yorke If it is Convenient to you to let us have the Platter Carry them Down to Yorke I will hear after Do as much work to hir as will Com to the Hire of hir. Captain Belt will tell you our Necessity so If you Can Conveniently Spare hir you will lay us under the Greatest obligation If there is any services Stephen Can Render the Council at Yorke he will do it with Pleshur

October 27
Brown Book
No. 3
Letter 71

[M. Gist, Camp York, to His Excellency Governor Lee]

Major Giles left this place the 20th Instant, by whom I make no doubt you have been informed of the capitulation & surrender of the British Garrisons of York & Gloster. I have now the honor to enclose you a list of the prisoners amounting to 7050 exclusive of Seamen. 74 pieces of Brass & 140 of Iron Ordinance, with upwards of 10,000 Stand of Arms and a large quantity of stores &ca have fallen into our hands the further particulars of which with the articles of capitulation, you will find publish'd in the public prints.

His Lordships defence of the post was not so obstinate as might be expected from an experienc'd and determined Officer, his errors impartially displayed wou'd increase his misfortunes and probably involve him in difficulties with the ministry as hazardous as those experienced thro' his Military operations in America.

His Excellency General Washington having since concerted measures with the Count De Grasse for our future operations—our Artillery and Stores are in consequence thereof embarking—perhaps Wilmington may be our first object.

Brown Book
No. 3
Letter 70

Enclosed is the State of my Brigade, exclusive of the Regiment of Virginians attach'd to it. The men enlisted to serve 'till the 10th Decr will be drawn from the others & left here, under proper Officers.

1 Lt General	
1 Brigadier Genl	
2 Colonels	
14 Lt Colonels	
15 Majors	
90 Captains	
175 Lieut.	
46 Ensigns	
3 Cornets	
4 Chaplains	
6 Adjutants	
18 Qr Masters	
18 Surgeons	
25 Mates	
385 Serjants	
179 Drums & Fifes	
5953 Rank & file	
1 Town Mayor	Hospital department
1 Commissary of Prisoners	Hospital department
1 Asst Qt Master	Hospital department
1 Field Inspector	Hospital department
3 Hospital Surgeons	Hospital department
10 Mates	Hospital department
2 Purveyors	Hospital department
4 Stewarts	Hospital department
2 Ward Masters	Hospital department
19 Assistants	Hospital department

Brown Book
No. 3
Letter 70

2 Carpenters	Commiss^{r} Dept.
4 Dep^{y} Commissaries of Issues	
4 D^{o} D^{o} of Forrage	
2 Ass^{t} Commissaries	
2 Clarks	
3 Issuers	
2 Coopers	
1 Labourer	
1 Conductor	Waggon Department
25 Waggoners	
1 Commissary of Military Stores	Military Stores department.
3 Conducters	
5 D^{o} of Horses	
11 Artifices	
4 Provost Marshal	
1 D^{o} Ass^{t}	

total 7050. 80 followers of the Army

[Chas Blake, to His Ex: Thos S. Lee Esqr] (p^{r} Mr Bash) October 28

I am to inform y^{r} Excell: that I have three hundred an odd Cattle still on hand; have sent in Middleton 55 head those on hand will in a little time be unfitt for use as they are losing fast. I hope you'll send Vessels for them or order them off immediately as they will be good for very little in a little time the grass being all gone.

[Col^{o} Wm Bordley, Chester, Kent Co to His Excell^{cy} Thos. Sim Lee Esqr] (p Mr. Spencer's Boat) October 29

I am of opinion, that it is absolutely necessary that one or more Boats, should remain at Rock Hall, to keep open a communication between the Eastern & western shores, I mean that those Boats should be exempt from being impressed into the public service, except for the purpose of conveying intelligence, soldiers &c. from hence to Annapolis. I have wrote this in consequence of Mr Spencers application who informed me, that y^{r} Excellency required, something from under my hand relative to this matter.

October 29
Red Book
No. 27
Letter 3

[Henry W. Archer, Lieut. Legion Cavalry, Annapolis, to Gov. Lee.]

On the receipt of a letter from Cornet Jordon informing me that there were a number of saddles and bridles in the possession of Mr Bullen belonging to the State of Maryland, which the Governor & Council would supply the Legion with if the United States would give them credit for the same, I applied to the board of war, they refered me to the financier Genl who directed me to write to enquire into the quality and price of the articles and make a report thereof.

Thinking I could much better do this in person, and at the same time adjust some other public business I set off from Philadelphia

October 29 Red Book No. 27 Letter 3 and came to this place at my own expence which upon an average amounted to four Silver dollars ꝑ day. As this is an expence my pocket is ill calculated to sustain, I beg leave to submit it to the wisdom and justice of your Excellency and the honorable the Council whether I shall not be repaid it.

October 29 [Wil: Livingston, Trenton to His Excellency The Governor of Maryland]

A certain Muliner who was lately executed in this State for several Robberies, & other capital felonies, had, before he plundered on shore, committed various depredations at Sea. During his piratical Cruises he took several prisoners, Citizens of different States in the Union. These he used to parole & dismiss. The inclosed parole, I find he took from Inhabitants of your State. It will I suppose be a satisfaction to the people concerned to have it back, for which purpose I do myself the honour to transmit it to Your Excellency as the surest way of its getting safe to their hands & am with the greatest Esteem

[Parole of Willm Van hollon [William Mullhon?] County Acomac Maryland, [Virginia]. Henry Bunyon, County Calvert, Samuel Lambson County Worcester and John Rain [Rine?] County Worcester taken by Joseph Mulliner and Daniel Brooks. May 31, 1781

October 29 [David Poe, D. Q. M., Baltimore, to Gov. Lee.]

I Beg leave to inform your Excellency and the Honourable Council that I have lately had orders from the Commiss^{y} Genl of Millatary Stores to procure a Number of Craft to go to Susquehannah to load with Stores and then to proceed to Head Quarters in Virginia, there is also Provisions Sent from the Head of Elk to this place to be Shiped for Virginia owing to the want of proper Craft at that place to proceed down the Bay, we have also some Flour here which is wanted with the Army the whole I believe amounts to about 800 Ton of Shiping I have procured a part which is Sent to Susquehannah, but from so many Vessels in this Harbour which I am told belongs to Gentlemen of the French Nation who says they are not to be interupted in their Trade, should 100 part of a Vessel belong to any of them. I am unable for want of proper Craft to have the Public Stores sent Down therefore would be Glad to be advised by your Excellency about the French property I would beg your Attention to Another matter which is the Difficulties I every Day labour under from the Owners of Teams I Employed this summer for Public Service owing to the want of Money to pay them the sums due to each is so small that numbers will never go to your City for it, they are Growing so Clamours that I need never pretend to get Waggons for Public Service again unless I can satisfy the

People by some means or other the whole amounts only to about £1250 for hire of Teams and that is due to near 300 Persons If your Excellency should think proper to order that Sum to be sent me of the new Money by the Bearer it would be Confering a Particular favour on me and I can Venture to say it would be Serving the Public much, as Individuals would be much Readier to Serve in future, I would also Beg that you will if Possible order some money to be sent me for the Line of Express as I am unable otherwise to keep it going. October 29

I hope you will Excuse me for being Troublesome necessity Urges me to Write as such a Number of Creditors Threatning to Commence Suits for there money, and indeed some has already Done it.

[John H. Cromwell, Cecil County, to Governor Lee] October 30

I find in the publick papers an advertisement setting forth the Sale of all the Estate of James Russell & Com^a^ merch^ts^ in London, on the 10th Day of November next on the premises, part of the Land adjoins Land of mine & I am very desirous of becoming a purchaser; and being Administrator of John Ham^d^ Dorsey Late of Balt^t^ County Deceased I have Lodged a very Considerable sum of Money in the Office under the Act of Assembly to pay the Debt Due from said Dorsey's Estate to Great Britain & he Owing Others I am Called on to Settle the Estate which if not Done I shall become a sufferer & as I have no way to Extricate myself from this Difficulty or to Embrace an Oppertunity of purchasing Land which might be of Considerable advantage to me as well as some Little to the State, but by applying to your Excelency & the Honorable Council for permission to Attend said Sale & Liberty to settle my Accounts, I have taken this method of making my Application hoping you will take the above into Consideration and grant my request which will be a great advantage to me & Cannot be a disadvantage to any one & To the community at large. I am besides all this Deprived of the sight of my family being almost thirty miles Distant and have never seen them since I Left Annapolis Except on my way here not having it in my Power to bring them to this place, on acc^t^ of it being put into the hands of a man for a term which is not yet Expired—resting on Your Excelency & Honors Goodness to relieve me from such Difficulties & hardships.

[Joseph Ford to Gov. Lee.] [October]

Your Excellencies favor by Coll^o^ Forrest with Eight Hundred Pounds of the last emission I received and am sorry to find that I have made contracts that should be thought inadmissable by your Honble Board but as my Instructions were not against Tobacco contracts I thought they might be admitted of unless unreasonable and

[October] to make that appear it may be necessary to inform your Honb[le] Board of the prices Tobacco and Bacon, currently sold with us for at the time of them contracts, in gold and silver Tobacco Plenty at and under [illegible] Bacon scarce at [illegible] I had some of the last emitted money of the Public in my Hands, but I could not procure Bacon for it because it was Subject to depreciation and the Holders of it chose to discharge there Public Assesment in other Articles which they could much easier spare the recruits & Draughted men were wanting provisions for immediate use and to forward them to Annapolis and Bacon was not to be had unless I would agree either to give Tobacco or hard money, those reasons induced me to make the contracts in Tobacco, I am in hopes that Tobacco may Issue to discharge the contracts already made and in future I shall take care to Avoid them. I have sent of to Geo Town one Hundred and fifty Three Beeves and expect in a few days to send forward as many more, The last requisition of Three Hundred Head I am fearfull cannot be made up without distressing our people much.

[October]
Blue Book
No. 4
Letter 18

[The Petition of William Proctor Junior To His Excellency Thomas Sim Lee, and His Honorable Council]

Humbly Sheweth. That your Petitioner was lately drafted to serve as a Soldier till the 10th of December next, and has received orders to march, which He is not able to comply with by reason of his bodily infirmities, that your Petitioner has been for three years last past, and stil is, in a very infirm and sickly State, and as his complaint is of the Consumptive kind He has little prospect of recovery. Added to this mismortune, He is very poor, and has a sickly wife and three children, which live on the Bay side exposed to the Enemy, and which He can scarcely support with the bare necessaries of life, under these Circumstances your Petitioner Humbly begs your Excellency and Honours will be pleased to excuse him from marching, and permit him to remain with his poor helpless Family and He as in duty bound will ever pray.

I am not acquainted with the above petitioner but from the report of his neighbours I believe the contents of his petition are true

W[m] Ennalls	William Thomas (p[t]
Tho[s] Barnett	Hanley Byus
Roger Jones (p[t]	

We the Subscribers are acquainted with the within William Proctor and are Satisfied the contents of his Petition are true.

Ezekiel Vickars	Henry Claridge
Joseph Hubbard Cap[t]	James Claridge
James Bryan	Joseph Payn Sen[r]
Solomon Jones first Lef	Joseph Payn jun[r]
Samuel Hubbard second Lef.	John Frazier Sen[r]
A Allan	John Frazier Jun[r]
William Roach	

[Benj[a] Bradford Norris, Thos. Johnson, John Taylor, John Rumsey, J. Patrick, Gabriel P. Vanhorn, A. Whitaker, W[m] Smithson, Jn[o] Love, Harford County, to Gov. Lee & the Council.] November 2 Red Book No. 27 Letter 152

This may Certify to his Excellency & the Honourable Council, that John Stump son of John of this County, hath always Maintained and Supported a General good Character was an Honest Man and a good & Faithfull Subject to the State & a Friend to the Common Cause of America, that we never knew or heard any thing to the Contrary or the least Prejudicial to his Character; Except the Report; from that of his being taken before your Excellency and the Honourable Council on Suspicion as Witness our hands

[Henry Hooper, Dorset County, to His Excellency The Governor in Council] (Fav[d] by Capt Kirkman) November 3

There is a Vacancy of an Ensign in Captain Levin Kirkmans Company of Militia of the Upper Battalion of this County occasioned by resignation of Charles Addams

James Jones is first Serjeant and I think him a proper person to succeed to fill up this Vacancy

[Tho[s] Beall of G. for T. Richardson Esq[r] Geo Town to His Excellency Tho. S. Lee Esq[r]] (Hon[d] by Coll[o] Joshua George) November 4

I am to inform you that I have Collected in this County two hundred and ten head of Black Cattle of which Number I have deliv[d] to Coll[o] Joshua George A D Q M. at this place one hundred and ninety six, the remainder I have on hand which I have ordered to be fed well tell I have your Orders what I must do with them as Col[o] George will not receive them at present. Coll[o] J George will deliver this to you at which time I beg leave to introduce him to you, being a very Clever Gentlemen. I am not able to get any moore Cattle in this County without distressing the People, there has been a large Quantity of Cattle Carried out of this County to Baltimore by the Butchers &c.

I have Chiefly paid the Owners of the Cattle for what I have taken, being no Brandy or whiskey to be had in this County; Pray how is pasturage of Cattle to be settled; and Waggonage of Con[l] Flour I am much pushed by the People for payment and at what price ꝑ head ꝑ week or day.

Your Ans[r] by Coll[o] George will Oblige Sir your Very Hum[l] Serv[t]

[Petition of James O'Hara] November 5

Unto His Excellency The Governor & Council of Maryland. The Petition of James O'Hara Humbly Sheweth That your Excellency's Petitioner, inlisted as a Soldier in the first Maryland Battalion in the

November 5 Year 1776 during the War, and always did his duty faithfully & Conscientiously, as become a Soldier, but being now by Reason of Cold and Sickness, rendered unfit for duty Your Excellencys Petitioner Humbly pleads, That your Excellency & Council would take his Case into Consideration, And Allow him something out of either half pay or pension, as shall seem meet to Your Excellency & Council, As your Petitioner is at present in great need of a Blankett a Shirt & pair of Shoes, And has got a Wife & Children to Care for, & no otherwise provided for—And your Excellencys petitioner As in Duty bound shall ever pray.

November 5
Red Book
No. 9
Letter 126

[Chas. Thomson, Philad[a], to Gov. Lee.]

I have the honor to inform you that this day pursuant to the articles of Confederation, the United States in Congress Assembled proceeded to the choice of a President and have elected for the ensuing year, his Excellency John Hanson

November 6

[Tho. Price, Frederick Town, to Gov. Lee.]

Previous to your late Instructions respecting my not sending any more Beef, Cattle &[ca] to Virginia I had sent off the last Drove, which together with the former made up in the whole two hundred & eighty three Head; I had also forwarded all the Flour, agreeable to Directions from the Commissary Gen[l] so that at present there is a Scarcity of both these material Articles, there not remaining on hand Viz. of Beef Cattle, more than twelve, & they small, and of Flour not exceeding one hundred bbls. There is 'tis true Wheat enough, but the Waters are so low that little can be ground & nothing but Rain or Supplies from other Parts can prevent a Scarcity in the Articles of Bread

But if my Views respecting the article of Bread be discouraging in Respect of Flesh Provisions they are more so; The Guards kept up here have been a continual Drain to this County, the calling out the Select Militia & Light Horse & supporting them, tho but for some Days required large Quantities, but the seizures for the Supply of the Army has rendered it very scarce indeed: when to these is added the Depreciation of red Money, the Difficulty of procuring any further or large Supply of that Article is very manifest; hard Money & nothing else, can in any Measure lessen the Difficulty. I was informed by Doctor Philip Thomas last Night that M[r] George Murdock was appointed issuing Commissary here, but having learnt this Morning that he refuses to Officiate I shall continue to act as formerly till I shall receive your orders to the contrary

November 7
Red Book
No. 27
Letter 151

[James Sulivane, Comy D. Co[ty], Dorchester County, to Gov. Lee.]

As my purchase of Cattle is nearly Compleated the people are much distressed for the Balance due them as many have depended

on paying their Assessment with the Money due them for their Cattle and if Certificates was granted for that purpose there could be no Allowance made for the fifth Quarter the Balance supposed to be Seventeen or Eighteen hundred pounds if it is in your power I shall Esteem it favor you would send the Money over as soon as possable November 7 Red Book No. 27 Letter 151

[Peter Chaille, Commis W[orcester] C[ounty], to Gov. Lee.] November 8

I have sent the Horses that I have Collected according to order^{s}. I have Collected four Hundred and forty Beef Cattle have Slaughtered, by order of Col^{o} Ephraim Blain C: G. Purchases, three Hundred and thirty Six, Beef Cattle I have one Hundred and four on hand, which I am Feeding Lightli, to keep them in order, as ouer Pasture is geting Very Short shall be glad to have sum directions Respecting them Col^{o} Blain has directed me not to send the Beef forward that I slaughterd, Last, which I have taken from on Board the Vessel, and shall save it According to Col: Blains Orders, in the best maner I Can, he Informs me that Part of the Cattle I have on hand will not be Wanted Until next Summer, if So I think it will be best to desist from, Collecting aney more, then what will be paid in discharge of Taxes you will pleas to give me direction here to Proceed, as I have no Salt, pleas to direct me whether I must Purchase, aney or not, and what Quantity, at the same time I shall want money to pay for it, as their will be a Large Quantity of Pork paid in discharge of Taxes this winter, the Salt had better be procured in time.

P. S. if the Cattle Shuld be slaughter'd, this winter think they had better, be slaughterd at this Place as they will decline much in driving, and the Expence of Transportation much Cheaper by Wayter then by Land, Pleas to give me Order^{s} by the Bearer as I shall be at a Loss to know how to Conduct Myself

[Rich'd Dallam, Harford County, to Gov. Lee.] November 8

I am inform'd by Mr John Stump that the Books and papers, I seized and sent down to Your Excellency last Winter are not yet returnd him and that he is a sufferer thereby.

In justice to Mr Stump I must inform your Excellency that On the receipt of the warrant to Apprehend John Stump of Harford I should not have taken this John Stump if the other could been found but as the warrant did not perticularly describe Either I thought it my duty to take the one in my Power.

I have been acquainted with Mr Stump for some time & was concern^{d} with him in the purchase of a Tract of Land of Mr Harrison which the Lowness of my Finances obliged me to sell out during my Acquaintance with Mr Stump I can with truth say that I never had reason but to think that he was a friend to the Independence of

November 8 America, If nothing appears from the Examination of Mr Stumps papers to induce Your Excellency to believe otherwise of him I should be glad to hear they are return'd him as I know he must suffer from the detention of his Books of Accounts.

November 8
Red Book
No. 127
Letter 153

[John Stump, son of John, Harford County to Gov. Lee & the Council.]

May it Please Your Excellency and the Honourable Council This will be handed you by Mr Benjamin Bradford Norris who going down to the Assembly have obtained the favour of him to wait upon you with it; I Wrote you some time Since by John Patrick Esqr for my Books & Papers, but he Informed me they Cou'd not be had in less than two or three Days which time he cou'd not wait; Therefore have taken the Liberty to write you again on the Subject; Suppose it wou'd be Needless to say any more than I have said in my Former Letters with Respect to what I suffer for the want of them; but That it may Please Your Excellency & the Honourable Council to have them carefully seiled up & Delivered to Mr Norris;

And that it may Further Please your Excellency and the Honourable Council; to Consider the Situation I am in, Confind to the County, and Thereby deprived even the Liberty of going to see my (Relations) or looking after my Property as the Chief of both lies in other Countys, Indeed the Chief I am worth have laid out In Erecting a Very Commodious Merchant Mill Nearly Equal to any in the State; have got her Compleated all but the (Stones and Clothes,) she will be of Publick Benefit when Finished, which is out of my Power for want of my Books to Collect the money; and the Liberty to go after the Stones & Cloths (and so she Stands:) which is a Very Considerable loss to me, as well as the Publick; It Realy wou'd be endless for me to mention what I suffer on Acc^t my Confinement, and although you may look upon me In what Point of View you Please; yet I am Conscious that I have always Acted the part of a good Subject; and a Real Friend to the Common Cause of American Liberty; Therefore I hope your Excellency & the Honourable Council will at least think me Entitled the Common Priviledge of a fine Subject; and that I may be no longer Confined to the County; and if it should be Required can give any Security for my good behaviour towards the State; Inclosed is a Certificate of my Character; and as I Mentioned In my last; hope you have found nothing In the Books Contrary to Law; or any way Prejudicial to the Common Cause of America

November 9
Red Book
No. 30
Letter 47

[H. Hollingsworth, Head of Elk, to His Excellency Thomas S. Lee, Esqr.]

And please your Excell^cy & Honors In my long letter of the 22^d October I did myself the Honour of acquainting you of my difficulties being out of money and Credit though much in debt haveing

given the people I have had Forage pasture & c^{t} of the strongest assurances that I would pay them as soon as possible, and as the Sheriff is now on their backs for their Taxes which he will execute for (if not paid) I must Intreat that a sum of not less then five hundred pounds of the late Emission be sent me by the bearer John Hollingsworth who waits on you for that purpose, (and if tis possible, at least as much hard money, as it is impossible for me to go on without it. You will observe by the Inclosed requisition that I am requested by Col^{o} Yeates to procure twelve Tons of Hay p^{r} Day and short Forage Equivalent for twelve or fourteen days, which will amount to three hundred Bushels of Corn or Oats ꝑ day also which is not to be had in this neighbourhood the whole being consumed by the Army on their way down and by the ox Teams left here to recruit (untill the return of the Army) the expence of which has amounted to about thirty pounds ꝑ day, which is now Increased to near as much more, Col^{o} Dayton who commands the Jersey Bridgade and is now here waiting for their arrival & assures me there is fifty odd Teams now between this and Baltimore on their way up, which will want Forage in two or three days—by your letter of the 30th August you request me to have a sufficiency of Forage laid in at Elk, and were pleased at same time to send me £250 Red money this sum (though acceptable) was it all hard money, would not have defrayed the expenditors of Forage at this Post for any one week since, nor at several particular times would it have sufficed for two days, the expence now at this Post for Forage only on the best calculation I can make is not less then fifty pounds ꝑ day with an Arrearage of about three thousand pounds which by promise ought to be paid ere now, nor will a single person let one Ton of Hay or a Bushell of corn go longer on the credit of the State, tis my presence only that keeps this Post alive, nor can I go down the State be the business ever so urgent untill I am relieved. I must therefore Intreat that this letter be attended to, and that such provision be made for me as to you in your wisdom shall see just.

November 9
Red Book
No. 30
Letter 47

[Don'l Yeates, D. Q. M. to Colo. H. Hollingsworth.]

November 9
Red Book
No. 30
Letter 48

As the Stores of our returning Army with the addition of those taken with the late Captured army under Lord Cornwallis, being on the return, some of which are already arrived at this place from York river; and the whole expected in a few days, these are required to be got a Cross to Christiana with the utmost dispatch, this business will require the service of all the teams that can be collected from the Country exclusive of the Ox teams that came on with the army when they first moved down for twelve or fourteen days at least: and from a calculation of the support of those teams and Oxen for this time it will require twelve Tons of hay ꝑ day and short forage

November 9
Red Book
No. 30
Letter 48

Equivalent and as the Hon. the Executive of this State has authorisʼd you to make the supply on this interesting occasion, I must earnestly request your making the supply with all possible dispatch and have not a doubt of meeting every exertion in your Power

November 11

[Jas. Calhoun, Baltimore, to the Council.]

Inclosed is Copy of a Letter I rec^d from the Quarter Master at this Post. I have wrote him for answer that it was totally out of my power to comply with his requisition at this time as I had not any Forage belonging to the State in my possession nor the means of procuring it but that I would lay his application before Your Honble Board.

There is very little grain comes here nor for Sale owing I believe to our Vessels being kept down the Bay and what does come cannot be bought for Paper Money nor indeed any other article.

November 10
[copy]

[David Poe, D. Q. M., Baltimore, to Jas. Calhoun, Esqr.]

As there is an immediate want of a large Quantity of Forage at this Post for the use of the Teams and Riding Horses belonging to the Continental Army now on their way from York in Virginia to the Northward and as I have had orders to apply to you for such Quantities as from time to time may be wanting to supply this Post therefore must request you if Possible to Furnish me with one Hundred Ton of Hay and one Thousand Bushels of Corn and Oates or other Grain equivalent for the above mentioned purpose. Should it be out of your Power to Comply with this request either in part or whole, I beg that you may give me your Reasons in writing so that I may be Justifiable in Purchasing or doing otherwise as the case may be

November 11

[David Poe D. Q. M., Baltimore, to Gov. Lee.]

Give me leave to inform your Excellency that there is a large Quantity of Forage Imediately wanted at this Post for the Use of the Teams and Riding Horses belonging to the Continental Army now on their Return to the Northward, also for a Supply during the Winter for such Horses and Teams as may have Occasion for Forage, as there is none upon Hand. I have had Orders to Apply to the State Agent, I made a Requisition to Mr Calhoun a Copy of his Answer I herewith inclose should your Excellency be of Oppinion that there can be anything done please to detain my Express until you meet in Council. If I had Red money to Pay one half in hand and promise hard money in three months, I could Supply this Post with Hay and Fire wood at the Common prices now given, I would more Readily Contract as I am Assured of a Small Supply about that time I will thank you for an Answer if Possible by the Bearer and also to my letter of the 29th of last month, that I may know what to Write to the Quarter Masters General on the Subject

[Ja^{s} Calhoun, Com^{y} of the W. Shore, Baltimore to Mr. David Poe, Q. Master, Baltimore] November 11

I Received yours of the 10th Inst. Requesting me to furnish you with one hundred Ton of Hay and one Thousand Bushels of Corn and Oats or other Grain Equivolent for the Post at this Place.

I am very sorry that it is totally out of my Power to Comply with this Requisition at this time as I have not any Forage in my Possession belonging to the State or the means procuring it.

Your Application shall be laid before the Governor and Council, but whether it will be in their power to procure the necessary Forage for the Post I cannot undertake to say

[Jno Gibson, Colo. 7th Virg. Regt. Fort. Pitt, to His Excellency the Governor of Maryland] November 12 Red Book No. 32 Letter 19

This will be handed to your Excellency, by Serj^{t} Tannehill of the 7th Virg. Reg^{t} who now marches down the Remainder of the Maryland Corps formerly Commanded by Co^{l} Rawlins except one man who has a large family, to whom the General commanding this Department has given permission to remain here until Spring

The reason of sending them of now, was a Serj^{t} and two more deserted, and we were much afraid the rest would follow their Example they seemed anxious to join their Line

[Chas. Blake, Corsica, to Gov. Lee.] (P^{r} favour of Col^{o} Tilghman) November 14

Col^{o} Tench Tilghman has promis'd to deliver this, I apprehend that the last acquainting you with the Situation of the Publick Cattle in my possession has not come to hand, they are daily loosing. I hope your Ex. will give immediate directions what to do with them. If it can be done some desire to have them again. A Gent^{n} has made an offer to receive the Cattle at the Red Lion near New Castle there have them judg'd and in June next deliver half the quantity in good order. I think those that will receive them again had better be permitted (if they can be spared) and the rest drove to Elk where if not wanting Col^{o} Hollingsworth may probably dispose of them to advantage. If any are wanting to be Salted there is a very large proportion of them yett fine beef and I have plenty of Salt. I hope y^{r} Ex. will send directions by Express; as every day is of vast importance, and a letter may lay ten or twelve days if not sent in that way. I need say no more of the necessity of immediate orders or my own feelings.

[John Smith Brookes, Upper Marlbro, to The Honb^{le} The Governor & Council.] November 15

I received your commands some few days agoe by the hands of Col^{o} George, wherein you desire me to send forward what cattle

November 15 remain'd in my hands, as well as some others that were at Bladensburgh, to Frederick Town to be delivered to George Murdock Esqr In Consequence of which I sent off on Monday last the whole of the number then Collected about 260 head some of the Cattle from having been much harrased are not fitt for immediate slaughter—they greater part of them are in tollerable good Condition. I am informed there is yet a Number to be sent forward from the Lower Counties—the number heretofore required of this County is compleated and the whole (save a few scattering ones which could not be got together) sent forward—the expences attending the feeding, pasturing and driving this number of Cattle together with what may be sent on will lay me under the necessity of drawing a further sum of money from you for the payment of these expences—at this season the Cattle require to be well fed and the disabilities of our red money makes it very difficult and indeed I believe now impossable to purchase provinder for them—pray what am I to do in such cases—where the parties will not take red money for Hay &c for Cattle should any more be thrown into my hands. I have gone through thus far tollerable well but dread my success in future

November 15 [Joshua George A. D. Q. M., George Town, to His Excellency Thos Sim Lee Esqr]

Mr Calhoun has not as yet sent me the fifty bush^{ls} Salt you wrote to him the 5th Ins^{t} to supply me with immediately and as Mr Beall of this Town see him on Friday last in Baltimore at which time he had not rec^{d} your Excellencys Letter, I apprehend it must have miscarried I have borrowed a little Salt but far insufficient to Salt the Beef the first time. I hope your Excellency will urge Mr Calhoon to send it immediately as I shall be much distressed for it.

November 16 Red Book No. 23 Letter 87 [H. Hollingsworth, C. Eastern Shore, Head of Elk, To His Excellency Mathew Tilghman, Esq. in Special Council, Talbot Court House.] (P^{r} Mr. Jno. Hollingsworth)

Your fav^{r} of the 2^{d} is only this day received observe the contents, am pleased that Boats are loading with wheat, as the Mills are now empty occasioned by the contrary winds which has blown longer unfare than was ever known at any one time, which has prevented my sending any Vessels, as we could get few up, which few I have been obliged to apply to the service of the French Army, which is to winter at York & Williamsburg, but as the winds now fare I expect a number of Vessels up with it, which as soon as unloaded shall be a part of them applyed to the State Service as I have got partly through that of the French for the present, and Colo. Yeates is not in want of any, so that I flatter myself of sending several Craft in a short time to Messrs Richd Tilghman 4th & Henry Dickenson Esqr You will

observe by the Copy of the letters Inclos[d] from Col[o] Ephraim Blain, D. Yeates & Dearborn, that the returning Army are on their way for this place, which I now hourly expect, they have not only their own Teams Stores, Artillery & Baggage but that taken from the British also, which with the Teams that is now called, for the Transporting the Baggage &c[a] to Philadelphia will consume all before them, the difficulties I had to Incounter as the Army went down (for Forage) was very great, as the consumption was equal to twenty Tons of Hay ꝑ day, and Corn in proportion, I have on the present occasion engaged all the Hay within fifteen Miles, but corn we have not, should I offer to Buy so great a quantity in our County it would raise the price fifty ꝑ C[t] and distress the Inhabitants, I must therefore earnestly Intreat your assistance in ordering me a quantity of Corn as soon as possible for the Forageing of the whole Army down (and now up) I have received two hundred & fifty pounds (only in red money) you can Judge from this how my Credit stands having had at no one time since less then five hundred Head of Cattle to Forage, and many times three times that number, exclusive of the State Cattle, (and all the Teams of the army and its dependants) this together with the purchase of Casks, Baggs, nails and hireing of Teams for transporting the wheat to the Mills, has much difficulted me. I have wrote to the Gov[r] & Council on the occasion, but the disolution (which must be kept as secret as possible) prevents their doing any thing at present, to you only Gentlemen I can apply with any prospect of success, the cattle not yet slaughtered I conceive ought to be sent here as fast as possible, where Butchers are ready to slaughter them, the Beef salted down in Vessels ought to be now packed into Cask, and well salted which I conceive can be best done at this place, as Bb[ls] and salt can be had, and the Beef will be at the most convenient place for transportation, the great expence I had last spring in removing the Beef Pork and Flour from Snow Hill, Head of Choptank & induces me to this opinion, Col[o] Dayton who commands the Jersey Brigade is now here (from York) and assures me that considerable quantitys of the Beef from the Eastern shore which was salted in Bulk (in Vessels) was Spoiled and thrown away, this Induces me to think something should be immediately done with the remainder, least it should be lost. I want one hundred and fifty Head of good Cattle immediately, and the remainder as fast as they can be sent, at least three or four thousand Bushels of Corn, the wheat I have no doubt is on its way, no more Beef Pork or flour need be sent to the Southward, will thank your Excellency & Honours to give such directions as to you in your Wisdom shall seem meet,

November 16
Red Book
No. 23
Letter 87

P. S. I want £500 Read money which I have engaged to the people of whome I have had Forage to pay their Taxes pray assist me to it if possible

November 17
Red Book
No. 23
Letter 87

(17th P. S. to the 16th)

I have wrote to Messrs Tilghman 4th and Dickinson, also to the several County Comissarys, requesting their Exertion in forwarding the Beef, Flower and wheat, which I doubt not of your concurance and further assistance in, Colo Lloyd has a parcel of Corn which He will spare on the terms inclosed (in His Letter) I have thought it too high, but now Submit it to your Excellency and Honors, if tis thought not too high I'le thank you to give order in it.

October 20
Red Book
No. 23
Letter 89

[Edward Lloyd, Talbot County to Col. Hollingsworth.]

Your letter of the 13th Instant did not reach me before yesterday Evening. I need not mention, how anxious I am to support the Credit of our late Emission; but surely it cannot be expected, that a few Citizens should receive it, when the people allmost universally refuse it. However, as I am largely engaged to support the Credit of the money, and think it the Duty of every Whig to contribute all in his power to keep up the Credit thereof; I shall close with you so far as to take one third in the new Emission, and the other two thirds in hard Cash; the money to be paid down on the delivery of the Corn at 2/6 ꝑ bushel. The Quantity on hand I believe may be from 1200 to 1500 bushels to be delivered at my Landing on Wye River.

October 26
Red Book
No. 23
Letter 91

[Eph. Blaine, C. G. Pro., York Town, to Henry Hollingsworth Esqr.]

The Army being detached from this place and few or no Troops remaining here, have to request you to forward no more provisions of any kind to this place—when further operations or the Canteenmts of the Army take place shall give you information where to forward your supplys—what beef Cattle you have upon hand preparation must be made to salt them down and have them properly Barreld—great care must be taken in this Business in order that the beef may be well cured to keep untill next Summer—however this is the business of your State, and will require particular attention

[November]
Red Book
No. 23
Letter 88
[copy]

[Donaldson Yeates, D. Q. M., to Colo. Hollingsworth.]

As the Stores of our returning Army with the addition of those taken with the late Captured Army under Lord Cornwallis, being on the return some of which are already arived at this place from York River, and the whole expected in a few days, there are required to be got a cross to Christeen Bridge with the utmost dispatch, this business will require the Service of all the Teams that can be collected from the Country exclusive of the Ox Teams that came on with the Army, when they first moved down, for twelve or fourteen days at least; and from a calculation of the Support of those Teams and Oxen for this time, it will require twelve Tons of Hay

p day and short Forage equivalent, and as the Honorable the executive of this State has authorised you to make the supply on this Interesting occasion I must earnestly request your making the Supply with all possible dispatch, and have not a doubt of meeting every exertion in your power

[November] Red Book No. 23 Letter 88 [copy]

[H. Dearborn, Lt Colo, D. Q. M., Head of Elk, to Colo. Hollingsworth.]

November 13 Red Book No. 23 Letter 90

The Army (which I expect will be at this place within two or three days, at furthest) on its arrival will be in want of provision, Forage and Teams, being informed that those matters are under your direction, as an officer of this State have no doubt but you will take the necessary measures for furnishing those supplies. I think one hundred and fifty Beef Cattle will be necessary to drive on with the Army when it marches from hence, which I expect will be within three or four days; the quantity of Forage Col° Yeates has requested of you I imagine will be sufficient, short feed is of great importance to us—thirty four horse Teams at least, will be wanted, and if they are not procured by you or Col° Yeates, wee shall be under the disagreeable necessity of making use of the authority of the Army for procuring them, which will perhaps distress many of those Individuals which have contributed their full proportion, towards the Support of the Army, whilst others that have done very little good go free not doubting but that you will make every exertion in your power to furnish the above mentioned articles.

[G° Washington, Mount Vernon, to His Excellency, Gov. Lee]

November 16 Brown Book No. 1 Letter 45

I had the Honor to receive your Excellencys last Favor, a few days before I left my Quarters below Immediately caused the Enquiries you mentioned, to be made—but with very little success. Of the Refugees named, none were to be found in the Returns made to me. The Commiss^ry of Prisoners could only collect, that a Mr French had been with the Enemy at Portsmouth, and had left that place to go to Charlestown S° Carolina.

The Case of Mr Middleton, I mentioned to the Admiral de Grasse, who promised to do what was in his power for his Relief.

I beg your Excellency will do me the Favor to forward the inclosed Letter for Col° Tilghman by the first opportunity that may present to Rock Hall.

I promise myself the pleasure to see your Excellency at Anapolis or Baltimore, which ever place you may be at, on my Way to Philadelphia, for which place I shall leave this in three or four Days.

Be pleased Sir to believe that I am with very particular Sentiments of Esteem & Regard Your Excellency's Most obedient and most humble Servant

November 18 [Joseph Ford to Gov. Lee.]

I make no doubt but that Your Excellency And the Honble Council think strange that I have not made returns for the Two last months before this till within this Two weeks I was so much perplexed in the Collecting the Cattle ordered for this County that I could not attend to it, and Since I have been prevented by Mrs Ford's being dangerous Ill, I shall send my last drove of Cattle to Fredrick on Tuesday next about 150 in Number, this with about 24 Strays and others that could not be drove and the 226 Delivered at George Town makes the 400 I have on Hand about 1200 Bushels of wheat which I have endeavoured to get a Craft to carry to Baltimore and have also wrote different times to Mr Calhoun for to send for it I am in hopes that I shall be able to make particular returns and Bring them up by the first of the next week.

November 19 [Richard Peters, In Behalf of the Board, War Office, to Gov. Lee.]
Red Book No. 7 Letter 210

It is discovered that the British Prisoners lately captured in Virginia find Means to escape from the Places of their confinement & under one Pretence or other pass thro' the Country on their Way to New York. I take the Liberty of mentioning this Matter that your Excellency & the Honble Council may adopt some Measures for remedying this Evil by punishing the Persons harbouring or facilitating the Escape of Prisoners which is done in some Instances by Whigs for the sake of their Laborer & by the disaffected from a Desire to serve the Enemy. Probably in Recommendation to the officers of Militia & the Magistrates & Citizens to be careful in examining all suspected Persons & stopping all those who have not Passes might answer a valuable Purpose. The Keepers of Ferries have it much in their Power to be useful in detecting deserting Prisoners. If a Law of the State could be passed laying Penalties on all Persons employing or concealing British Prisoners not having Passes it perhaps might embarrass if not entirely put an End to the Practice

November 19 [Tho. Price, Frederick Town, to Gov. Lee.]

With great Difficulty I have supplyed the Prisoners & their Guard, with Provisions, until Friday last, when I received a Supply of 300 Head of Beef Cattle, from Prince George & Washington Counties; these will be sufficient for them for about five Weeks. If they are to be slaughtered here & salted a Quantity of Salt will be immediately wanted, also a Number of B^bls^: this last Article I am afraid cannot be procured in Time without hard Cash. I have for the present procured Hay & Corn to feed the Cattle, these with Brann & Shorts I hope will enable me to keep them from falling away as long as these Articles can be had. I wish for Instructions concerning the Hides: I have for the present delivered them to Tanners here who are to pay for them in Money, Leather or Shoes as you shall direct

[Dan Bowly, Balt., to Gov. Lee.] November 21

Having learnt that you will grant permission to a certain number of Vessells to load Provisions for the purpose of importing Salt into the State, and that those permits will be extended even to Ports within the British Dominions, a few of us have agreed to embark in the Scheme, if Captain Croxall (who is one of the Concern) think the matter practicable, upon being informed fully of the nature of the permits and other circumstances relative thereto: Capt. Croxall waits upon you for this purpose.

[Moses Rawlings, D. C. Gl. of Prisn'rs, Frederick Town, to Gov. Lee.] (favour of Col° Skinner) November 21 Red Book No. 28 Letter 71

I have the Honour to inform your Excellency that Col° Thomas and myself is of the oppinion that it will be much best to keep the whole of the Prisoners at this Post, as it will be of Infinite less expence to the State and will take such a Number less of the Militia to Guard them, and should Mr Morris Take up the matter to supply them by Contract, it will be much the best to have the whole Together. 'Tis almost as convenient to send the provisions from Washington County to this Place as to send it to Fort Frederick as our principal Mills are on Antieatem.

The number of Prisoners at this post is about 1500. Including the Guards the Daily Issues will be about 1800 Rations.

The winter Season is fast approaching your Excellency will see The necessity of laying in a proper Magazine at this Time, a great deal of Pork might be now Bought; and I believe very cheap provided the purchasers could be furnished with hard Cash, if we do not buy it and very soon, it will all go to Virginia and Pensylvania as the upper Counties lay so convenient to those States

I hope your Excellency will order up all the Cattle Bought in the Lower Counties to this Post as they must fall away Daily, we are in great want of Salt at this post.

I hope it will be in your Excellencys power to send me about £100. in order to Buy Forage for the Public Horses and to Enable me to pay Waggoners Wood cutters &c. &^c

Colonel Skinner Comm^y General of Prisoners who will have the Honour to deliver this, can give you the particulars respecting the Prisoners.

NB. I have three or four Public Horses which unfitt for the Waggon Service—likewise upper and Soal Leather exchanged for Public Hides which your Excellency will be pleased to direct me in what manner to dispose of them

November 23
Red Book
No. 29
Letter 48

[Timothy Pickering, Q. M. G., Alexandria, to Gov. Lee.]

Inclosed is a copy of a letter from Lt Col^{o} Carrington deputy quarter master to the southern army, which shews the propriety & necessity of my making this application to your Excellency, agreeably to his request. Destitute as Mr Yeates is of money, I know that a requisition to him must be fruitless; and that the State alone can furnish to him or its own agents the means of procuring the supply of horses demanded by Col^{o} Carrington, & which I am convinced will be essentially necessary for the southern army. While the enemy were scattered over that country, the frequent captures of horses from them kept up a tolerable supply for the small number of continental troops usually commanded by General Greene: But this resource is entirely at an end. And the exhausted state of the Carolinas forbids the hope of obtaining horses in that country. Virginia too, by the supplies it has sent to the southward, but mostly more by the incursions of the enemy during the year past & the great numbers furnished to our own army in the state, is very much drained of horses; so that it would be extremely difficult to procure horses there, & such as could be obtained would cost very extravagant prices.

Under these circumstances, Col^{o} Carrington's demand is very naturally pointed to Maryland a state which tho' its exertions on many occasions deserve the highest praise, has never suffered by the devastations of the war, And unless that demand be complied with, at least in a very principal degree, I do not conceive that the Southern army can operate. In times past it has moved with the utmost difficulty; and has saved itself from starving by divesting itself of every convenience & even of necessary equipage, that the waggons might be employed in transporting provisions. These difficulties will be increased by the considerable reinforcement of Pensylvania & Maryland troops now on their march to the southward. There will be a proportionably greater destruction of horses & render a supply from Maryland still more essentially necessary These considerations, as they appear to me important, so I doubt not they will receive due attention and that by the exertions of your Excellency and the State of Maryland such a supply of horses will be furnished to the army commanded by General Greene, as will enable him to continue to act with that vigour & efficacy which have hitherto so remarkably distinguished all his operations, from whence such immense advantages have been derived to the United States.

November 15
Brown Book
No. 8
Letter 25
[copy]

[Edw'd Carrington, D. Q. M. to Colo. Pickering, Q. M. Gl.]

The States Southward of Maryland are from the ravages of the Enemy & Continued drafts of the Service so exhausted of Horses that few or none can be obtained in them. I have repeatedly called

on Col° Yeates D. Q. M. for Maryland for supplies of both Waggons & Horses, but have never been able to obtain any from that Quarter. As to Waggons I believe we may do without getting any from that State, but horses we must at all events have a supply of four Hundred. You will much oblige me by calling on Col° Yeates or the Governour of Maryland, & endeavour to obtain from them a supply if Possible.

November 15
Brown Book
No. 8
Letter 25
[copy]

[Tho. Price, Frederick Town, to Gov. Lee.]

November 23

Yesterday I received by Capt Richard Johns of Montgomery County a Drove of Cattle; to the Number of one hundred & forty one, by him I was informed that part of them had been drove to Williamsburgh, but not being wanted there they had been joined by a Number of others and ordered here. This driving or redriving has made the far greater part so poor as to render them intirely unfit for Slaughter at this Time, and it appears to me that they were ordered here, rather to rid that State of the Trouble of maintaining them through the Winter; than out of any other View. As they cannot be slaughtered this Winter I am at a Loss what to do with them; & considering that there was only this alternative either to dispose of them among the neighbouring Farmers to be maintained during the Winter or to sell them at Public Sale, I have made it my Business to enquire among the Farmers if they would take them, on any reasonable Terms, but I met with very small Encouragement, shall therefore wait your Excell^y & Council's Directions herein. There is another Point wherein I would crave your Excell^ys Instructions & that is in Regard to the Issuings Liquors, as part of the Rations; I have indeed during the summer, on particular Occasions to fatiguing Parties issued Liquors, but the Guards being new very numerous & the service Severe owing to the cold Weather & cutting Wood for stockading the Barracks, the men highly call for it; if you should think it necessary, a supply of Specie will also be necessary, as red money will no Way answer to purchase it: you will please also to order me some red money to pray for such part of the Beef Cattle seized for the use of the Army as still remains unsettled also Carriage of Flour &c &c.

[Abm. Skinner, Com. Gen. Pris, Baltimore, to Gov. Lee.]

November 23
Red Book
No. 27
Letter 154

I have the honor to transmit your Excellency two Letters I received at Frederick Town, from which place I intended to proceed to Annapolis had not an unexpected piece of business prevented me.

I have returned thus far from the Posts of Fort Frederick, and Frederick Town whither I have been by desire of His Excellency The Commander in Chief to see the State and Condition of the Prisoners sent to those places. Col° Rawlings Letter will give your

November 23
Red Book
No. 27
Letter 154

Excellency a tolerable Idea of their Situation and I cannot but hope from the arrangements I have made there, we shall be enabled to compleat The General's wishes respecting them, at present they are tolerably well Supplied and guarded, and I think the Stockades now erecting will secure them

November 24
Blue Book
No. 4
Letter 50

[Petition of British deserters Annapolis Goal to Governor Lee]

Please Your Excellency to Look into the three Deserters that they Deem as British Prisoners do take this Oppertunity of Leting Your Excelency know the Poor Starved Condition that we ar in for the want of Wood to Cook Our Provitions We ar Obledged to Make Us of it Raw as we Draw it from the Commisry And Sterving With Cold and Weet So as we ar in A Miserable Condition. We have ben in this Condition thes three Wiks And if Your Exelency would Pleas to Do som thing for Us for Ever we should to you, Do but Consider the Miserable Condition that we ar in at Present Laying in the Cold Rain And if Your Honour Would be Plesed to Exemen in to this Affair And to Grant us a pass or to Let us out in to the town for to Work for our Living for Ever we should be obledged to you or any thing that Your Honnour should think fite Do for Gods Sake think upon us and Relive us from this Place And not Let us Lay Like thives or Murders. Do for Gods Sake think upons and for Ever we Shaild be Obledged to you.

November 25

[Jas. Calhoun, Baltimore, to the Council.]

I had the honour to receive yours of the 23^{d} inclosing a copy of your letter of the 5th Ins^{t} That letter reached me six days after its date, and I gave immediate directions to Mr Griffith Com^{y} of this County to have some of the Wheat collected by him, manufactured into Merchantable Flour and brought to Town, to enable me to make the purchase of Salt you directed which he promised to have done as expeditiously as possible but to this hour I am not able to procure one Barrel of Flour. He says the Millers will not grind the Wheat without being paid in Specie, the Coopers will not supply him with Casks, without being paid in Specie, nor can he get it hauled to Town without paying for it in Specie, thus the want of Money that will pass stops it in every stage nor can I see how we can remedy it unless impowered to pay for all these matters out of the Sales of the Flour, and I am afraid there will be no great quantity of Wheat received this collection as most people find it their interest to pay their Taxes in red Money which can be readily purchased at two for one.

The day after yours of the 5th Ins^{t} came to hand I rec^{d} a letter from Col^{o} Price (who issues Provisions at Frederick in the place of Mr Murdock who refused to Act) informing me of the very

great want there was of Salt at that Post, on which I immediately purchased two Waggon Load and sent him, which I was oblidged to pay for in Specie of my own, although it suited me very ill to spare it. I also intended to forward the quantity you ordered to George Town as soon as it was in my power to procure Waggons, accordingly last Wednesday I engaged two Waggons to go to that place, for which was oblidged to promise them £6: 15. Specie each, and would have sent them off next Morning, but in the mean time Col° Blaine came to Town from the Southward and informed me that he had directed all the Cattle that was in the hands of Mr George unslaughtered to be forwarded to Frederick where he said all the Salt we could send would be wanted, and it was not necessary to forward any to George Town, or at most not more than one Waggon Load. This prevented me from sending off the Waggons until I had Flour or Tobaco in hand to enable me to purchase the Salt, as I assure you it is very inconvenient for me to lay out my own Money. November 25

There is a considerable quantity of Wheat collected in the lower Counties, which cannot be manufactured there for want of proper Mills, I some time ago requested the County Com^ys to send it either to George Town or this place, where it might be made into Flour, but it has not been in their power to procure Vessels and unless it is done speedily the Frost will probably close up the rivers. I dare say it would be in my power to get Vessels here as soon as they are discharged from the continental Service, if I had the means of paying them but as I before observed unless it can be done out of the Specific article itself, I know of no other method, for paper Money will not be received, and as to seizing, or impressing, I hope your honours will never require it of me again, for it is so contrary to my disposition, and effects my feelings in such a manner that I would rather forego any advantages that could possibly arise to myself, than carry it into execution

[Hanson Briscoe, Chaptico, to Gov. Lee.] November 26

I have been Informed that the Wheat Collected in this County for Taxes woud be Exchanged for Flower delivered in Baltimore. I woud Take the whole in this County at the Curent Cash Price and give Flower in Exchange, at the Baltimore Price. If you Think such an offer wou'd be accepted of by the Governor & Council I should be much obliged to you to make an application for me, or If they wou'd Part with it on any Terms, I shoud be Glad to Know them, or If they choose rather to Transport, to Baltimore or George Town, I have Vessells and woud undertake the Transportation of it at the accustomed Freights, Your answer next Post will much oblige your H^ble Servt

[November 26] [Petition of John Dicars private in the 39th Batn of Frederick County commanded by Coll James Johnson Esqr To his Excellency the Governor and Honourable Council]

Humbly sheweth, That Petitioner is one of the unhappy number of those men who is fined in the sum of Twenty pounds for not marching with the militia last June. That Petitioner at the Time of Receiving Orders was not in health having about 2 years ago fell from the Barn of Mr Adam Devilbess which Occasion'd him to keep his Bed five months and at certain times afflicts him very severely—That Pettr has Enrolled ever attended Muster and taken the Oath of Fidility to the States, and agreeably comply'd with the Laws of his Country, as near as his narrow circumstances wou'd admit. And confides in his Excellency and honourable the Council upon taking the unhappy case of Poor Petr into your serious Consideration will have the fine Remitted, As the contrary will prove ruin of a poor helpless charge, having no other support than the dependance of Petrs Daily Labour.

Your honours kind interposition will not only Taken as one of the greatest favours but Petr As in Duty bound will ever pray

Benj'n Browning	Charles Fr. Niemanne	Adam Devilbiss
Henry Wickham	John Brown	George Beckwith
Jacob Cookerly	Nicolas Hog	George Wrodes
Mat. Myler	Jno Chapman	Jacob Wrodes

November 27 [Jas Calhoun, Baltimore to the Governor & Council]

The bearer of this Mr John Roberts of Frederick County is by Trade a Tanner and has been well recommended to me. He waits on Your Excellency & the Honble Council respecting the Hides of the Cattle Slaughtered at Frederick Town which he is desireous either to purchase or Tan for the State I believe him to be a Person worthy employment should it be thought most eligable to have them Tanned and I am informed he can give proper security for any bargain he may make.

November 28 [Thos Williams, Upper Marlbro to His Excelly Thos Sim Lee Esqr] (By Capt. Handy)

Mr David Craufurd has committed to my Goal a man by the Name of Jno Conway who was Impeached by a Mr Handy. I hope your Excellency & the Hono Council will be pleas'd to say what I am to do with him as its said he does not come under the predecimt of a Prisoner of War—But a Spy.

[James [Hendricks], Alexandria, to David Craufurd Esqr, Upper Marl^{ro}] (p^{r} Capt Handy) November 27

Inclos'd is a deposition taken before me by Capt. Handy, the man Charg'd acknowledges he hath frequently Supply'd the enemy but does not think its Criminal as they are Both inhabitants of your State will do nothing with them here.

[Deposition of Joseph Handy] November 27

I Joseph Handy of Somerset County State of Maryland do dipose that being in a party of Lt Horse comanded by Col^{o} Done some time in June last came to the House of Wm Dickson in s^{d} County we saw a Schooner Boat coming up Colborns Creek which we suppos'd belong'd to the enemy on which we fir'd on the Boat, the People on Board endeavour'd to turn her out of the Creek on failure of which they to the number of about Eight leap'd out and made their escape, amongst which was a Certain John Conway that s^{d} Conway is advertis'd in Somerset County by the inhabitants as a disaffected person and a Considerable reward Offerd for him, that I myself with many others have often been in pursuit of s^{d} Conway

Fairfax C^{o} Virg^{a} ss The above Joseph Handy was Sworn before me this 27th Novr 1781 James Hendricks November 29

[Thos Beall of Geo. for T. Richardson, Geo. Town, to His Excellency, Thos S. Lee Esqr]

I am to Acquaint you that the several Mills in this County, appointed for the Reception of the Publick wheat, are all full & if I am not supplied with hard money I shall not be able to procure flour Barrells

The Coopers will not work unless I pay them as soon as the work is done and delivered, the Mills above mentioned are standing still for want of Barrells—have agreeable to your Orders sold thirty Barrells of flour belonging to the State and have Supplied Coll^{o} J. George at this place with Beef Barrells, have likewise dele^{d} Coll. George all the Publick Salt I had on hand which was about twelve Bushells

[John Hanson, Presid't, Philadelphia, to Gov. Lee.] November 31 [December 1] Red Book No. 9 Letter 123

Your Excellency will receive enclosed herewith a copy of an Act of Congress of the 23^{d} instant respecting infractions of the laws of nations, and the erection of proper tribunals for punishing them.

Such is the importance of the objects recommended in that Act, and, so obvious is the necessity for some regulations respecting them, that I feel satisfied they will engage the immediate attention of your Excellency & the Legislature of your State.

[November] [And. Buchanan, Balt. County, to His Excell^{y} Thos Sim Lee Esqr]

Lieu^{t} Co^{l} Charles Carnan and Major Joseph Gist of Col. Hammond Batta^{n} having resigned their Commissions, the Batta^{n} at a Meeting recommend that Capt Nathan^{l} Stinchcomb be appointed Lieu^{t} Col^{o} and Capt Elias Dorsey Major in their steads. I suppose they may be Equal to any in the Battalion, if you Approve of them be Pleased to forward their Commis^{ns}.

December 3 [Chas. M. Croxall to Gov. Lee.]

In consequence of information by a Gentleman from New York—and hearing the intentions of your Excellency & Council to draw on Congress or Financier for Specie for the supplying Lt. Cornwallis's Captive Troops with rations, during their Captivity—I doe myself the honor of soliciting the preferance to an appointment which may soon take place in this State; as negotiator for Provisions for that part of the Troops, in this State.

By this Gen^{t} I am inform'd on the Capture of Lt Cornwallis being confined in New York, Sir Henry Clinton, and Governor Robinson express'd their apprehentions that they should be obliged to be put to extreme inconveniency in supplying those Troops with rations—unless the States w^{d} admitt a negotiator to be appointed of by them, and that negotiator to be allowd, so much p^{r} ration and receive specie in New York for the purpose.

As persons who have suffer'd in the service of this State have ever experienced the attention of your Excellency and Council, in preferance to others, that added to my having the honor of an appointment in post issues, I flatter myself with merriting your Attention on this.

I can say from my own knowledge that during my Captivity, many hundreds of our Soldiers perished in their Goals for provisions which obliged Congress to appoint a Com^{ry} in their lines and send in rations, for the support of our Captives.

Those apprehentions are Justly founded or they would not first talk of preparations for a Mode, All I wish at present is your Excellencies & Council's recommend^{n} to Congress on the Subject, as negotiator for this State, in case such a mode is adopted your requisition is only wanting to effect it

December 3 [Tho. Price, Frederick Town, to Gov. Lee.]

I wrote you the 23^{d} of November last requesting your & Councils Instructions relating to some Beef Cattle I had received from Virginia, which were too poor to be slaughtered this Winter, Viz. whether they should be disposed of by public Sale, or placed out during the Winter among the neighbouring Farmers. I also requested your Instructions relating to the giving out Liquors as part

of the Rations, during the Winter to the Guards & Fatigue parties here. I also requested a supply of Money to make the necessary Purchase of Liquors for that Purpose. I have now further to add, that the great Quantity of Hay & Corn I am obliged to impress the Number of Hands I am obliged to employ in slaughtering &c &c makes a Supply of Money the more necessary at this Time. If you will please to recur to my last, of the Date mentioned above, where these several Points are spoken to more largely, I perswade myself you will judge your Instructions not unnecessary. December 3

[Jas. Calhoun, Baltimore, to the Council.] December 4

Mr Griffith informs me that two Men which he had sent out to collect Cattle for the state went to the Houses of Johannes Bop and Henry Wareham two ignorant Dutchmen who had three head of Cattle for Sale, but finding they were wanted for the State and would be paid for in Paper Money they sent them out of the way, upon which application was made to two Magistrates, who gave judgment for their forfeiture, for the use of the State agreeable to Law. Mr Griffith is of opinion that these Men were unacquainted with the Law and their conduct proceeded more from ignorance than any other motive and as they are poor Men that it will be hard to take their Cattle without any compensation therefore hopes your Excellency & Honble Council will please release the forfeiture and allow him to pay for the Cattle

[Jas. Calhoun, Baltimore, to the Council.] December 4

I had the honour to receive Yours of the 28th Ult. requesting me to make an immediate return of the Provisions received on Public acco^t

Before your letter reached me I had wrote in the most pressing manner to the different County Com^rys or their returns expecting they would be wanted at this time, but have not yet been able to procure them, I hope they will come in pretty generally this week however I will at any rate make out the most perfect one that it is in my power to do in a very few days and either take down myself or transmit to your Honble Board. I last summer made out a form of such a return as I deem'd most proper which was sent to every com^y in my district with a request that they would without fail furnish me with one agreeable to that form regularly every Month that I might be enabled to make out a general return & transmit you Monthly, but many of them pay not the least regard to this request although repeatedly urged to a complyance therewith

I can at any hour make out a return of all the Provisions that have passed through my hands but that is a very small part of what has been supplyd by the State

December 4
Red Book
No. 5
Letter 90

[John Hanson and Dan'l Carroll, Ph^{a}, to Gov Lee.]

We have the honor to enclose an extract from the communications lately made by the Minister of France to Congress, & request to be informed of the quantity of arms & military Stores you have ordered, and of any other circumstances relative to this Subject you may see proper

The Count de Vergennes in a letter dated the 7th of Septr mentions, that in consequence of applications from the States of Virginia & Maryland, the King had orderd a number of Arms & Military Stores to be shiped to them, subject however to the order of Congress: that these were to be paid for out of the Loan negotiating in Holland, which he had reason to think wou'd be compleated

Dec. 4
Red Book
No. 28
Letter 28

[John Stewart, On board the Porpois, off Hoopers Straights To Gov. Lee.]

This morning at Day light we made the Schooner Active Privateer we immediately dispatch'd Captain Revelly with the Barge and twenty men to reconoitre her, which he did; after about five hours working to wind ward we got within half a mile of her; Capt. Revelly then with great alacrity fired a Volly into her, and boarded, this Gentlemans merit is too well known to admit a farther Comment than to say that his Gallantry in this Action could not be surpassd even by himself. We have two prizes now in chase therefore I will conclude this letter by informing y^{r} Excel^{cy} that the Capt of the Prize says the last embarkation from N York is intended for this Bay where he expects they are now arrived

December 6
Red Book
No. 30
Letter 51

[H. Hollingsworth, Head of Elk, to His Excellency, Thos. S. Lee, Esqr.]

And please your Excellency & Honours Gentlemen on receipt of yours of the 22^{d} Nov. Immediately began to Slaughter the Cattle and sent Express to Col^{o} Blain for the Salt according to your orders, Inclosed you have his answer by which you will be informed there is none to be expected from him, as about one hundred of the Cattle were Slaughtered before I received his answer I was obliged to make use of what Salt I had of my own, and to borrow as much of my neighbours as would Strike the Beef now slaughtered, but shall want immediately for the remainder (and to pack the whole;) as also to pay my debts will thank your Excellency & Honors for your direction on this matter and how long I am to continue to Slaughter as the Cattle are falling off, as also whether I am to continue to supply Col^{o} Yeates with Forage (through the season) and if so how I am to obtain money to pay for it—whither I can have any red (and hard) money to pay for the Forage already purchased, (in

consequence of your order of the 30th August) and if any is to be had, that you will be pleased to forward by a safe hand as soon as possible such sum as your Excellency & Honours may think meet, December 6 Red Book No. 30 Letter 51

[Eph. Blaine, C. G. P., Philad^a, to Colo Hollingsworth] November 30 Red Book No. 30 Letter 49

Your favour of the 28th Instant came safe to hand and am sorry its not in my power to furnish you with salt for the purpose of salting what Beef Cattle there remains upon hand. Governments are still In debt a large quantity and you must make application to them for what may be necessary for the above purpose

[Pat Sim Smith, Calvert County, to Gov. Lee.] December 6 Red Book No. 27 Letter 157

I have delivered 149 Beef Cattle at George Town and 27 at Fredericks Town, and have the Quarter Masters and Commissarys receipt for them.

My whole collection will amount to Two hundred & I believe a few over including Seventeen sent first to Annapolis, and a few that would not drive, One of which I delivered yesterday to a detachment of Continental Troops, who were on their march thro. this county to the Northward and were in want of provisions, & two were left in the drove & have since strayed from the places they were left at. However I will endeavour to have them found and taken care of with any others that may remain untill they are Called for.

I have not as yet an Exact Account of the whole collection, but on a rough Calculation think that the whole Beef will amount to upwards of £1400. and as I had your directions to pay the Collectors and Drivers Accounts, which together with pasturage for the Cattle, have proved more Considerable than I expected owing to the depreciation of the money (especially the last drove sent to Frederick Town) I find I shall want about £ Three hundred pounds to pay up the balances now due for the Beef & hope I may be Immediately furnished with it, as the people are in want of it to pay their assessments, and I gave them assurance they should be paid. I am also very anxious to close my purchase and render a General Account of the whole. I must beg leave to assure you that I have been as saving of the publick money as circumstances would admit, and flatter myself my Accounts will be as moderate as any others, considering the Situation of the County, (most of the Cattle being in the Lower part of it) and the distance we had to drive them, with many difficulties attending it.

Should no opportunity offer sooner, Hope the money will be sent me by the Post as I am daily pressed for it.

A large Quantity of wheat has been received for this falls Tax. the wheat at Col° Fitzhughs Mill, he has engaged to furnish Barrells for, but the remainder with a great deal of the last Springs

December 6
Red Book
No. 27
Letter 157

Collection and some of my old purchase must continue on hand attended with great loss, unless I can be supplied with Barrells from Annapolis or elsewhere, I have taken every Step in my power to procure them here without any prospect of Success.

I believe a considerable Quantity of Pork will be paid in the County for the next January Tax—several applications have already been made to me, and as the time draws near, if I am to receive it. I could wish to be furnished with Salt in time. I have engaged some pork Barrells and think there is a prospect of getting a Sufficient number for what pork may be Collected here.

December 6
Red Book
No. 27
Letter 64

[Stephen Steward, West River, to the Gov & Council.]
(Pr Captain Harrison)

I have a vessell about the sise of the Porpass which we Intended to have loaded with flower If the State would have Paid us any thing to Inable us to have Bought the flower finding wee are not like to Git any thing with Sertenty from the State the winter now advansing fast so that wee are Runing the Danger of our vesell being Stopt with the frost wee have Determined to Load with tobacco and flower the tobacco wee have by us the State Holding so much Muny of ours wee are not able to Buy the flower without Seling some of our affects therefore wee begg the favor of you gentelmen of the Counsell to send up 50 bar^ls of your best flower If it is Convenient to you an order on your Comesery at Baltemore town would be most Convenent to us Wee have a Quanti^ty of tobacco In Phil^a which wee have ordered to be sould for Cash at any Price the muny wee Cant git In time to Buy the flower or we would not be so trubelsom to you you may Depend in having the flower Returnd In ten Days or suner after Calling for it If you have not flower the milers will Give up flower for Wheat If you will send up wheat, the assembly & Counsell Borowed the Porpass of us last winter She Returned to us a wreck it tuck up near two months to Repair hir hull hir Rigen Sails masts yards and spars was so shot to Pises wee ware oblige to git Everything Intierly new which Cost us £800 when wee Got hir Completed so as to be fit to take In a Cargo wee Chartred hir to the Counsell wee then Bought a load of fine flower for the State which Cost up about £600 wee sould a Parsel of Goods to the State to the amount of £1800 to Cloath the Souldiers with which wee ware to be Paid for last May the galle I have advanced full 1600£ Hard muny If I Charge my mens wages these advances with many Capetel misfortunes occations me to ask this faver of the lone of 50 bar^ls of flower of you the Nesbitt the state kept hir two months from us with Near about 40 Hands at our Expence I think on the hole it would be much better for my Purse If I had

acted the Part of a tory or a luke warm whig If I had acted that Part my Houses would be standing and the State would have got nothing from me but my taxes I beleve many that cals them selves Whiggs has not Paid to this Day December 6 Red Book No. 27 Letter 64

[Petition of Robert Gilchrist of Caroline County] December 7

Unto his Excellency Thomas Sim Lee Governor of Maryland And unto his honourable Council

Humbly Represents That your petitioner is a native Of Britain and came early into this Country where he carried on a very extensive and Successful trade, both upon his own Account, and Conjunct with some Gentlemen of London, until this war put a total stop thereto, which, your petitioner has suffered so severely by the Tender Law's being in force so long, And by many and heavy losses by Sea, that he is now reduced from a State of Genteel and Independent affluence, to that of great; if not ridiculous distress, which moves him to beg, more from necessity, than choice.

That Your Excellency and honours would give him Liberty to move into the city of New York, that he may remove from thence to Great Britain or unto the Island of Jamaica, at both which places he has many friends and relations in very Affluent circumstances, who have long wished him among them, He begs leave to prefer this method of removing hence, at least, to that of touching at any of the Neuter Islands. As when he gets to New York, if Jamaica should be in possession of our Allies (which is not very improbable) or any Accident may have happened to his friends there, he may shape his course to Britain Accordingly, he at New York will be supplyed with Cash and Cloths which he now much wants. Whereas at present it would be difficult for him to raise money to pay his passage to any of the Neutral Islands, And if he could, having no friends or acquaintances, at any of them, must be left destitute and forlorn, and it might be many, many days ere he could get a passage to Britain or Jamaica, Even by the assistance of friends or money.

Your Petitioner is farther induced to think your Excellency and honours will grant his request, as his conduct and behaviour has been steady, regular and uniform during this Contest, early taking the Oaths prescribed by Law and behaving in all respects as a peacable and dutiful Subject, which he will always endeavour to do remove where he will, nor will any rewards, threats or promises, ever make him forfeit his declared Allegiance to these States, to whom he wishes all success and will leave with regret.

Your Petitioner humbly prays Your Excellency and honours to take the above into Consideration and will ever pray &c.

December 7 [Duplicate of the above to the General Assembly of Maryland with the following endorsement " We the Subscribers recommend the within Petitioner to your Excellency and Council. Geo. Plater, J. A. Thomas, Uriah Forrest."]

December 7 [Ephraim Blaine, Comy. Gen'l, P., Philad[a], to Jas Calhoun, Esq.]

The inclosed letter from M[r] Morris to me will shew you his desire of having all the Specific supplies of Flour and Salted Provisions in your State forwarded to this place, have therefore to request you upon rec[t] of this to give orders to your Assistants to forward all your flour and Salt Provisions without a moments delay to the Head of Elk (except such as may be necessary for supplying the Prisoners at Frederick Town and such Troops as may be passing your Post at Baltimore as the season is far advanc'd and two Vessels waiting in the Delaware to receive those supplies beg that no time may be lost in the execution thereof—please to favour me with a line by the return of the Express and inform what may be expected to Elk

December 4 [Robt. Morris, Office of Finance, to Ephraim Blaine Esqr, Comy. Gen'l.]

I am to request that you will as soon as possible bring on hither and deliver to M[r] John Ross Merch[t] of this City who has my orders for the disposition of it all such of the specific supply of Flour and Salted Meat of the States of Delaware & Maryland as can be conveniently transported to this place, and that you will deliver to the use of the Army of his Excellency the Count D: Rochambeau or to such persons as he may direct to receive the same all the Flour which may be convenient for delivery there When you shall have taken your measures on this subject let me know them

December 7
Brown Book
No. 8
Letter 7

[Moses Hazen, Brig Gen'l, Commandg. at Head of Elk, to His Excellency, Governor Lee.]

It having been represented to me that, the sick Men left at Annapolis under the care of Lieu[t] Michael Jackson are in great want of clothing; I have in consequence thereof directed forty pair of shoes, forty Vests and Ten damaged coats to be sent them from this post and as no other Articles of clothing which those men may want, can be had at this place, and as it would be impracticable to attempt conveying to them in time the necessary supply from the Deposite at West—Point, I beg you will supply their real wants to render their situation as comfortable as possible while at Annapolis, as well as to enable them to joine their respective Regiments; as soon as may be. As Hospitals are established at this place, I recommend

your forwarding those sick by Watter before the bad season for Navigation in the Bay comes on, of which however You are the best judge December 7 Brown Book No. 8 Letter 7

I have learnt with some concern, that an attempt has been made by Capt John Carlile (late of the Regiment I have the honor to Command) to receive the loan certificates of the State of Maryland for the depreciation of wages due to the non commissiond officers and Men serving in the Regiment, and considered as a part of the states Quota. I am in possession of a Return made by Capt. Carlile of those non Commissnd off^{rs} and Soldiers, under which he has certifyed that they have not received more Clothing than their allowance by Congress during their time of service, which supposing it to be true, was impossible for him to know, it being not only out of the line of his Duty, but he was a prisoner with the Enemy near two years of that time.

It is also reported to me that, a considerable number of those men have actually sold their right to those Certifycates for a mear trifle not exceeding five Eight or ten Dollars each, and that Capt. John Carlile has guaranteed the bargin and delivery of the certificates. These are facts which I think it my Duty to make your Excelency acquainted with.

What I could wish as well for the benefit of those deserving men, the credit of the State and honor of Our Service that those certificates might remain for the present, in the hands of the Treasurer of the State that the Interest might be punctually paid to the Soldiers and that such abominable Trafic might be discouraged

[M[ountjoy] Bayly, Fred^{k}, to Gov. Lee.] December 8

I have the honor of Transmiting to your Excellency the proceedings of a Genl Court martial held at Fred^{k} Town where of Ensign Karr of Capt Wincesters Comp^{y} of Select Militia was Tryed and broke for unOfficer like behaviour while on his Command—I flatter myself the Proceedings of the Court will meet with Counsels Approbation—I am sorry to inform your Honble Counsel that it is with the greatest difficulty I can supply the Prisoners which are Quartered at this post with Wood I have done it heretofore by Fatigue parties from the Militia Guards—but that mode I find I can no longer persue—the Guards refuse to Cut Wood—they say they are Soldiers And not Wood Cutters—the officers who Comm^{d} the Militia in this County has not the least Idea of discipline or indeed even distinction. I have had it in my power to do the State an infinite service in the Course of this Tour. I could have Broke several very bad officers but Col Thomas is too Tender of his officers—who prevented me from Breaking several.

December 6 [Indorsed "Ensign Kerr of Capt. Winchesters Company of select Malitia of Fred. County was tried by General Court Martial begun and held at Fred Town Decr 6th 1781 whereof Colo Benj. Johnson was president and sentenced the said Ens. Kerr to be cashiered which is approved and ordered to be carried into execution."]

A General Court Martial held at frederick Town December 6th 1781 By order of M. Bayly Commandant of the Guards Whereof Colo Benjamin Johnson Was president

Captn Ott	Asst Members	Lt Hoggy
Captn Chaplain		Lt Nuller
Captn Winchester		Lt Maddin
Captn Nicholls		Lt Miller
		Lt Founger
		Ensn Jones

William Winchester Judge Advocate

The above Court met at 12 °Clock and being Sworn in Agreeable to the Articles of War. The Judge advocate also being Sworn

The Court proceeds to the Tryall of Ensign Kerr of the Guards Charged with Unofficer like Behaviour while on his Guard.

Henry Shell Sworn on behalf of the State Saith Ensign Kerr was going into the barracks with a man that Had Cyder to sell, as he came out again the wittness askd him What °Clock it was, he answered one °Clock. Ensign Kerr then asked the Wittness if he was not going to treat him, the wittness answer'd An officer always treats a private man Whereupon he drew his Sword and Struck the Wittness with the Hilt of the Sword on the head (the Wittness being then on his post) James Mockobay then left his post came to the wittness and said he was a Saucy Rascall, Ensign Kerr then ask'd James Mockabay if he would go into Capt. Whites house and drink a dram, they both Went into Captn Whites house Stayd some time, then Came out when Ensign Kerr ordered James Mockabay to his post

Question by the Court

Was there any conversation between you and Ensign Kerr after he asked you to treat him and before he Struck you.

Answer. I said an officer always treats a private man.

Question. Was Ensign Kerr drunk.

Answer to the best of my Knowledge I think he was.

Ensign Kerr appears and plead not Guilty

Ensign Kerr alledges in his defence that although he struck Henry Shill on his post and took James Mockabay of his post He was not drunk and prays that Captn Nicholls May be sworn on his behalf.

Captn Nicholls is accordingly Sworn

And saith that he was with Ensign Kerr on the Markett ground near the Barracks about 11 °Clock yesterday Morning that Ensign Kerr did not appear to be Drunk at that time.

Adjutant Mim sworn on behalf of the State

Saith that he saw Ensign Kerr yesterday about 4 °Clock in the Evening that he thought Ensign Kerr was at that time Unfit for duty which appeard to be occasioned by Liquor December 6

The Court after Mature consideration being of opinion that Ensign Kerr hath been Guilty of Unofficer like behaviour While on his Guard, Do sentence him to be Cashierd. Benjamin Johnson, president

[Jas Calhoun, Baltimore, to the Council.]

As its probable Mr Reeder comy of Provisions for Charles County will want a considerable quantity of Salt this Winter and Mr Ridgate of that County informs me he has salt to dispose of which he will part with on reasonable terms payable in Tobacco I submit it to your Honble Board to make the purchase as it is not in my power to procure a sufficiency of that article at present for want of the means to pay for it If I had cash could buy French Salt here @ 14/ to 15/ ꝑ Bushel & allum Salt at 22/6 which will enable you to Judge of the Proposals Mr Ridgate intends making you

[David Poe, D. Q. M., Baltimore, to Gov. Lee.] December 8

I Recēd your Excellencies favour of the 28th of last Month in Respect of the Honourable Charles Carroll's Wood which was Cut down by a Party of Soldiers on their March to the Northward, I am Convinced that they have Cut and Burned some Wood, which I believe belonged to that Gentleman but I cannot say how much has been destroyed. I only can inform you that 600 Men past belonging to the State of New York the Rest to Jersey, was Encamped there about Three Days, the whole was Commanded by Colo Cortland Commandant of the 2d New York Reigt that Gentleman had with him a Brigade Qr M. whose duty it is to find a place for the Soldiers to encamp, and Wood if it cannot be Furnished by the Qr Mr of the Post which was the Case here as I had not Money to Purchase unless I would give Two for one—which was forbid by your Excellency—the Matter did not come under my direction as the Brigade Qr Mr had the whole Management of that business. It is customary where ever the Continental Troops Marches to take Wood, asking no Questions to whom it belongs—the Common mode is to get two Reputable Persons to Value the Damages, for which the owner either is paid or Receives a Certificate for the same.

[Tho. How Ridgate, Baltimore to Governor & Council] December 8

I understand Mr Reeder the Commissary of Charles County is in want of Salt, I have a quantity of Imported Liverpoole Salt, laying at Portobacco and will furnish him with what he may want at the rate of 200l of Crop Tob ꝑ Bushell.

December 9 [Chas. Blake, Corsica, to Governor Lee]

Y^rs^ of the 1st of Novr I rec^d^ on the 3^d^ of this instant: and proceeded immediately to Salt fifty Beeves in bulk on Wye Island. I impressed a Vessel to send it to Annap: but the moment I left her, Hugh Reynolds manager for Mr Boardley loaded her with wheat and she went off to Baltimore. The Beef remains in Bulk at Mr Paca's 15543^lbs^ By Col^o^ Hollingsworth's order I have sent off most of the others to Elk, what remains fitt shall be Salted down directly. Y^r^ Ex: refers me to Col^o^ Blaines orders (they were to load the Vessels as fast as he sent them) none but Middletons Boat ever appear'd she was dispatched immediately the 24 of Octr and I have heard nothing from Col^o^ Blaine since: I have 300 bar: of flour ready to deliver at Emersons Warehouse Wye River, there is also a good deal of wheat on hand but cannot gett Vessels to transport it to the places order'd; Col^o^ Hollingsworth has promis'd Vessels but they have not yett come. The Vessel pressed as above mention'd belonged to one Davie of Baltimore the Shippers name Daniel Weatherby, Reynolds who loaded her was present when she was pressed. If y^r^ Ex: thinks proper to make an example of them it may deterr others if not, in the situation We now are without Money or even Creditt, the publick Stores must lay and Spoil in the places collected, as no Vessels will remain when they know they can go off with impunity. Please (as promis'd in y^r^ last) to order a Vessel to Wye for the Beef which is ready and very good, and for the flour at Emersons. Some of the Cows obtained are now so forward with Calf as not to be fitt to slaughter, those I have return'd to the owners at the price rec^d^ Some Steers not fitt to Slaughter the owners have agreed to deliver next fall fitt for the knife without any expence to the State. Those I have left till I can hear from you.

December 10 [William Molohon, Philadelphia, to His Excellency Thomas Sim Lee, Esqr]

Since my residence here I have at defirent times received from the State of Maryland 194 hheads Tobacco which I have sold from 17/6 to 20/ Per Cent—on the 9th of Octob^r^ I sold Messrs Ridley & Pringle of Baltimore 200 hheads to avarege nine hundred and fifty nett 140 of which was the property of the State, I had at that time about that quantity of State Tobacco by me—but on examining it, it had sustained such damage that from being much cut 27 hh'ds was too light to be included in the sale. I have since sold that parcell, which avareged a little upwards of seven hundred at 18/6 payable the last of Jany. I was Induced to sell on these terms, as the Tobacco from being much cut, was rendered unfit for shiping and it was not of quality to suit the Tobacconists. As there remained 40 hhds to compleat the quantity sold on Acc^t^ the State—I wrote M^r^

Key to forward it immediately 28 hh'ds of which has just arived— and is such infamus trash that Mr Turnbull who transacts Mr Ridleys business here will not receive it—and I am of opinion it will not sell for enough to pay the charges. Certainly the Publick is much imposed on—as I have received since my residence here considerable quantitys of Tobacco, from Gentlemen in defirent Parts of the State, and always observe that the Tobacco of private Property, is very superior in quality to that of the publick—you can have little use for Inspectors unless they do their duty which certainly many of them fall much short of—there is yet a few hhds in Mr Keys hands which I expect up before the frost sets in, which I will dispose of with what is already here on the best terms in my Power—and transmit your Exccellency An Acct Sales of the whole. Should you wish to have the sales of what is already disposed of youl please signify it in a line by post—and they shall be transmitted you—the proceeds of your Tobacco already sold has been Paid to your Delegates in Congress—as received. Should my services in this City be of any advantage to the Publick—Your self or connections— You may freely commd Sir Your Hble Servant. December 10

[Stephen Steward West River, to the Council.] December 11 Red Book No. 27 Letter 155

by acedent Mr tilard Heard I wanted som flower If you will Give me an order for What flower he has If it is good I will give you an order Next friday In baltemore town for the Quantity I Receve of him If you Culd like wise give me an order on Mr Maccobens Mill for 15 or 20 barls more If you have any thare it would be as much as would now fill up my vessell and save me and you boath the fraight. If this will be Convenent to you I will send you an order for the hole amedatly after noing how much I git

[Joshua George, A. D. Q. M. George Town Potowmack, to His Excellency Thos Sim Lee Esq.] (favd by Capt Lingham) December 12

I embrace the opportunity by Capt Lingham to inform your Excellency that I have never receiv'd the Salt from Mr Calhoun you ordered him early in Novr to purchase & send to me. I have wrote twice to Mr Calhoun respecting it, but can get no answer, and have been under the necessity of borrowing thirty Bushels to cure the Beef I have Barrel'd up. I am anxious to replace this Salt, and if your Excellency thinks proper to order Mr Thos Beall of this place to purchase, he can readily get it in Alexandria where I hear the Salt is selling at three dollars pr bushel.

[John Hanson, Presidt, Philadelphia, to Geo Lee] December 12 Red Book No. 9 Letter 104

Altho the present aspect of American Affairs is truly favorable, and opens to our view the brightest prospect of a glorious peace and the unmolested possession of the invaluable rights we have nobly

December 12
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Letter 104

dared to contend for, yet a relaxation in our Exertions will not only be disgraceful but may prove dangerous and even fatal to our Liberties. Congress on their part, are determined to prevent both the one and the other and accordingly have thought proper, by their Act of the 10th instant, a copy of which I have the honor of enclosing your Excellency, to call upon the Legislature of each State in the most pressing manner, to compleat the Quota of Troops assigned to them. The same Act contains several other requisitions, and the whole of such evident magnitude and importance as render it unnecessary to urge any thing more upon the Subject.

I have the honor likewise of transmitting to your Excellency a copy of an Act of Congress of the 11th instant, recommending it to the Legislature of each State to ascertain, as soon as practicable, their number of white Inhabitants.

A foundation for equal Justice, on a very important occasion, being the object they have in view in requiring the above information, your Excellency and the Legislature of your State will, no doubt, concur with me in opinion, that the business should be accomplished with all possible accuracy and dispatch.

December 12

[Hezekiah Reeder, Com'y of Ch's County, Port Tobacco, to the Council.]

Colº Burr Harrison of the State of Virginia has Just been offered to Manufactor the Wheat I have on hand and furnish Barrells his Mills is very convenient to this place his termes is one Shilling Virginia Cury per Bushel for Grindg Bolting packing and Storage the Barrells he will furnish for Two Shillings Virginia Currency & have them well Coopered, if you approve of his offer you will please inform by next post, his Mill is not more than forty Miles from this placed and a good Navagation and not more than ten or twelve Miles from some of the wheat.

December 13

[W. M. Beall, Frederick County To His Excellency Thomas Simm Lee Esqr]

I am desired by the Justices of the Orphans Court to acquaint your Excellency that there is now only three attending Members, Doctor Thomas having resigned and Mr Lawrence declining to serve from his bad State of Health, and that the Court wish to have two others Commissioned who reside in or near Frederick Town. I am also to acquaint your Excellency that no Commission for the County or Orphans Court has been received since this time two years, and that I believe it is the wish of the County Court to have one or two other Justices Commissioned who reside in Town, the most of the out door business being done there makes it necessary, I am inclined to think Colº Price, Colº Ben. Johnson or Captain John Adlom would serve.

[John Smith Brookes, Upper Marlbro, to the Council.] December 13
(By Mr. Lansdale)

I sent on to Frederick Town on Friday last another drove of Cattle consisting of about 160 head the greater part of which ware from the Lower Counties—the Expenses attending the feeding and conveying those Cattle together with what I sent on some time agoe has entirely reduced the sum of money you sent me last by Mr Chs Lansdale and I am now considerable in debt for the Cattle purchased—the People are very anxious to discharge there accounts with the sheriff and therefore are pressing me for the money. I wrote you some time agoe that the money in my hands was by no means sufficient to comply with my own private purchase and requested you will supply me with a further sum, I beg leave now to repeat the request and that you will intrust it to the care of Mr Lansdale.

There is a prospect of Pork being offered to me in the course of a few days by such as are indebted for Taxes and have not other means of paying them. I am without Salt and consequently shall be under the necessity of refusing any that may offer. I pray you to drop me a line upon the subject. I still labour under very great difficultys abt flower Barrels—the Gentleman with whom I had contracted will not furnish me unless I will pay him the hard money—will you permit me to sell as much Flower as will answer this purpose only—? the Barrels are very much wanting both Flower and Pork—the red money will answer only for the purpose of paying Taxes. I shall be happy to have your instructions upon these matters.

[Th. Johnson, Fredk Town, to Gov. Lee] December 13
Red Book
No. 29
Letter 19

Capt Boyer Difficulties to procure wood for the Guard and prisoners have induced him to apply to me several Times for a supply and today Colo Rawlings came with him. I could furnish two or three hundred cords as convenient as any Body but I cannot do it on credit as I did last year. Any thing which the public would receive of me again will suit me or Hides in Exchange for wood but these Gent. could not enter into any Engagement for either. Capt. Boyer who appears to me to be a very active frugal Officer made me promise to write to you but I suppose you'll have such Information from the different Departments here as will evince that the Guard and prisoners cannot be kept here on Credit.

I have understood that the Office of Surveyor of this County is Vacant I am not very fond of recommending to Office but I believe Mr. George Dent who has lived a good while with my Brother James would fill it with Ability and Integrity—if I consulted my own Interest meerly I should not mention him to you.

December 13
Red Book
No. 27
Letter 156

[George Stricker, Frederick County, to the Council.]
(P^r favour Maj^r Bayly)

In my last I inform'd you of having two of the State Horse's in my Possession which I collected under the Act of Assembly—one of which I had Inform'd you was taken with a fistula—and at that time the Farrier I Employed had the greatest hopes of making a Sound cure but has not turn'd out agreeable to his Expectation—his Excuse is that the season being unfavourable to perform the cure, and has returned her to me Yesterday in such a Condition as should be no Service to the State. The other is in Good Order and will send him to the Person formerly directed or return him to the owner who is willing to receive him if the State has no use for him. Your further direction with regard to the above mention^d Horses I shall readily Comply with.

December 14

[Peter Chaille, Worcester County, to His Excellency Thos. Sim Lee, Esqr.]

I writ to you sum time past For your direction, Respecting, My Purchasing, sum Salt, to which I have Received no answer shall be much oblig^d to you For your direction, as soon as Possable—as the People is bringing in Pork in discount of Taxes and the Beef that I slaughtered by order of Col^o Blain will want packing in Barrels, in a short time. Pleas to send me sum money to Pay For Salt Barrels &^ca

P. S. I have sent the Cattle to the Head of Elk by order of Col^o Hollingsworth.

P. C.

December 14

[Jas Calhoun, Baltimore, to the Governor & Council]

Inclosed is copies of letters I this Evening received from Philad^a which take the liberty of transmitting to you, as I do not think myself justifiable in giving any directions on this Subject without having first received instructions from Your Honble Board, therefore shall wait your orders thereon.

December 17
Red Book
No. 28
Letter 7

[Overton Carr to Gov. Lee.]

I did myself the Honor, some time ago, to present a petition to your Excellency and Council, praying a releasement from my confined situation. I take the liberty again to renew it, and hope that your Excellence and Council, (sensible of the many and great disadvantages it subjects me to in matters of Business, as well as depriving me of the pleasure of visiting my Relations & Friends) will not be deaf to its Prayer, Conscious of the Rectitude of my intentions, I regard with indifference any Bond, which your Excellency & Council may think proper to take, for my good Behaviour as a Citizen. I only pray to have the liberty of other members of the Community.

[The United States in Congress Assembled to the Legislatures of the States of New Hampshire, Massachusetts Rhode Island and Providence plantations, Connecticut, New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Delaware, Maryland, Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina & Georgia.]

December 17
Red Book No. 9
Letter 106
[Signed, "John Hanson, Presidt, By order of Congress Philadelphia"]

We are happy to observe that the present year hath been distinguished by the reduction of a powerful british Garrison in Virginia and that our Arms have also been prosperous in other Parts of the United States. But to infer that our inexorable foe is subdued beyond recovery may be attended with ruinious consequences. These events will yield but momentary advantages unless supported by vigorous measures in future.

From an assurance that Peace is best attained by preparations for War and that in the Cabinet of Negotiations those Arguments carry with them the greatest weight which are enforced not only with a retrospect of important Victories but by a well grounded prospect of future successes we have called upon you for Eight Millions of Dollars and for your respective deficiencies of the Military establishment.

Seven years have nearly passed since the Sword was first unsheathed. The sums expended in so long a Period, in a just and necessary War, must appear moderate, nor can this demand for pecuniary Aid be deemed exorbitant by those who compute the extent of Public exigencies and the proportion of the requisition to the abilities of the States.

Suppose not that funds exist for our relief beyond the limits of these States. As the Possession of the Citizen constitute our Natural resources and from a sense of their sufficiency the Standard of War was erected against Great Britain, so on them alone we now rely. But even if Loans were attainable their Amount would be nearly commensurate with our ability & inclination to repay and by nothing can both be more satisfactorily evidenced than by a generous exertion amidst the Languor of Public Credit.

Arguing from the former dilatoriness of supplies the enemy after having abandoned serious expectations of Conquest by Arms anticipate it in imagination from the dissolution of our Public Credit. They can not however deny the firmness of the basis on which it may be placed; when they survey the wide limits of this confederate Country, the fruitfulness of its soil & the industry of its People.

But the want of money is not the only source of our difficulties, nor do the Enemy gather Consolation from the State of our finances alone. We are distressed by the thinness of our Battalion, so vulnerable does the boldness of navigation render the very bosom of these States so dispersed in some facts is the population and so rapid an Enemy in transportation that they seize and exhaust large dis-

December 17
Red Book No. 9
Letter 106
[Signed, "John Hanson, Presidt, By order of Congress Philadelphia"]

tricts before their ravages can be Checked. The requisition for the Completion of your Battalions is therefore not only reasonable but indispensable.

Tardiness in the collection of our Troops has constantly encouraged in our Enemy a suspicion, that American opposition is on the decline. Hence money, from time to time, is poured into the Coffers of our enemy, and the lender perhaps is allured by the prospect of receiving it with an usurious interest from the spoils of Confiscation.

To whom then rather than Yourselves who are called to the guardianship & sovereignty of your County can these considerations be addressed? Joint Labourers, as we are in the work of Independence duty impels us to admonish you of the Crises. We possess no funds which do not originate with you, we can command no levies, which are not raised under your own Acts. Well shall we acquit ourselves to the world, should peace, towards the acquisition of which so illustrious a point hath been gained now escape our embraces by the inadequacey of our Army or our treasure: for an appeal to this exposition of your affairs will demonstrate our watchfulness of your happiness.

We conjure you to remember what confidence we shall establish in the breast of that great Monarch who has become a party in our Political Welfare by a bold energetick display of our ability.

We therefore trust in your attention and zeal to avail yourselves at this important Crisis of the Glorious advantages lately obtained, by a full compliance with the requisitions of men & money which we have made to you, the necessity of which hath been pointed out to us by the maturest Consideration on the present circumstances of these United States.

December 18

[Wm. McBryde To His Excellency Thos. Simm Lee Esqr]
(p Capt. Handy)

The Bearer has on Board 46420^{ll} Salt Beef, Bound to head Elk, but for Reasons before mentioned, have Ordered him Call on you & Please inform me what Price to give for Pork Barrels & in what kind money, Pray Do not load Salt by some of the Vessels, or Depend on the Pork Received & Going to Receiver will not keep in hot weather, Excuse this Incorrectness & Hurry.

December 19
Brown Book No. 1
Letter 46

[G^{o} Washington, Philadelphia, to His Excellency, Governor Lee.]

You will have been furnished by His Excellency the President with the Resolves of Congress of the 10th Instant, calling upon the several States to compleat their respective Quota of Troops by the 1st of March next In order to ascertain deficiencies, I am directed to transmit to the Executives of the States, Returns under particular discriptions, of the number of men each has in service. The Troops of your State composing part of the Southern Army, it would occa-

sion an immence loss of time were I first to call for the returns then transmit them back from hence, or whereever I may happen to be. I have for that reason directed Major General Greene to furnish Your Excellency with a State of your line, and give you credit for any Men you may have serving in the Legionary Corps or Artillery—deducting the amount from the quota assigned to you by the arrangement of the 3d & 21st of October 1780 will point out exactly your deficiency.

December 19
Brown Book
No. 1
Letter 46

I flatter myself it is needless to impress upon Your Excellency the necessity of complying as fully as possible with the requisition of Congress above mentioned. It is a well known fact, that the critical and dangerous situation to which all the Southern States were reduced, was owing to the want of a sufficient regular Force to oppose to that of the Enemy, who taking the advantage of the frequent desolution of our temporary Armies, had gained such footing in the foremost Southern, that their Governments were totally subverted or so debilitated, that they were not capable of exerting sufficient authority to bring a regular Army into the field. Happily the scene is changed and a moment is allowed us to rectify our past errors, and, if rightly improved to put ourselves in such a situation, that we need not be apprehensive of the force which Great Britain has remaining upon the Continent, or which she can probably hereafter bring. But the greatest encouragement to a vigorous preparation is that it will be the most likely method of gaining new Allies, and forcing Great Britain into a negotiation, which we have every reason to suppose would end in a peace honorable to the interests and views of America.

I will take the liberty of recommending a matter to Your Excellency, which I must sollicit you to urge to the Legislature as absolutely necessary to the filling your Regiments with proper men, more especially if the mode of drafting should be adopted. It is stationing Continental Officers, of the Rank of Field Officers at least, at the different places of rendezvous who shall judge of the ability of the Recruits and pass him or reject him as circumstances may require. For want of a regulation of this kind we have had hundreds of old men and many Children, disordered and decrepid persons passed by civil Characters appointed for Muster Masters and have been under the necessity of discharging them the moment they have joined the Army—whereby the State has been put to a vast expense for a useless man, and the service has lost a Man for the Campaign, the districts from whence such have been sent, have scarce ever replaced them. The Secretary at War will address your Excellency upon this subject, which I can assure you is of the utmost importance to the constitution of the Army.

I have the honor to be Your Excellencys
Most Obt Humble Servt

December 20
Red Book
No. 29
Letter 32

[George Jackson, Head of Chester, to the Council.]

In consequence of a warrant directed to the Lieut. of Kent county in January last, I was apprehended my books and papers seized on suspicion of having Purchased large quantities of grain for the use of the Enemy in consequence of which warrant I appeared before your honble body & was discharged but neglected asking for my books & papers, the bearer therefore waits on your honours, for the Purpose of receiving them provided it will be no Injury to the state to deliver them to him, the Book is marked George Jackson & C° & the Invoices Mann & Lea, if Mr Mann's books can be had it also will oblige me as many of the Accounts Interfere with mine and I cannot make a settlement without them & should you require them again they shall be delivered within one month from the time I receive them.

December 22

[And. Buchanan to Gov. Lee.]

Yours of the 3 Int. came to hand the 13 I then Orderd out from Co^l Smith Battalion 100 men who marched on this day, in Order to induce them to march with expedition, their field officers hath Promised to relieve them with an Equal number at the end of one month, this may not be amiss altho a little inconsistent, the guard in future from here now I Presume must be kept up in this way as it will be dificult to get the succeeding milita to Continue the 2 months, the Country militia have no arms I suppose that they may be had for the guard at Fred^k Town. Your answer by the first opper^y will be necessary as the mili^a in the County will be hard to move and must have a long notice of their march

December 22

[C. North, Lt. Colo., to His Excellency The Governor of the State of Maryland and the Honble Council.]

I have it in command, from the Minister of War to remove all the British Troops at this Post and Winchester to York Town and Lancaster in the State of Pennsylvania, and by the following Extract, from my instructions you will see that I am to solicite your Aid in furnishing the necessary Guards and Teams

"After taking a View of the Barracks and Hutts at Frederick Town, if you find they will contain all the Germans—you will then proceed to Winchester, and there make Application to the County Lieutenant for guards and Teams to Escort the Whole to Frederick Town. Halt the Germans there and proceed with the British, under the Escort which shall be furnished you by the State of Maryland. to York Town, where they will be met by a Continental Regiment from Lancaster."

I have therefor to request that your Honourable Body, will impower some person on the spot with sufficient Authority, to call in such number of Militia as may be necessary, as well as a few Teams to transport the Officers Baggage—there is several Officers in this Town belonging to the line of the Army who could be of infinite service to me in the discharging of this duty, whom I would wish to take as far as York—but their situation for want of Cash makes it Exceedingly disagreeable to me, to Order them on Command unless they could be supplied with a small sum to discharge their Necessary Expenses December 22

This will be delivered you by Major Bailey by whom I beg your Orders.

[Wm. McBryde, Comy, Somerset Co^{ty}, to Gov. Lee.] December 24

The Bearer Mr Thomas Gilliss wates on you for further Orders, Having on board Twenty Three Thousand two Hundred & Eleven Weight Beef also Twelve barrels Tallow & one barrel Tongs which is the last of the Beef Except a few Stray Cattle that will be Collected as soon as possible, am In Hopes you have ordered Salt here by this Time as I Expect pork Every Day & no Salt to save it

[Chas. Blake to Gov. Lee.] December 25

By the Plater I send 15543 pounds of beef from Mr Paca's; I have a load of flour ready on Wye at Emerson's Warehouse of 200 barrels and a great deal of Wheat on Chester but can gett no Vessels to carry either away having nothing to pay freights with; and if I press they will go off immediately, the wheat will waste fast. I have delivered by order of the Special Council a good deal to Mr Richd Tilghman the 4th if Vessels are to be had at Annap^{s} I should be glad of two that will carry 1200 bush. each in Chester. Mr Francis Baker has partly agreed to take a load of flour from Wye to Annap: but he may decline me.

[Thos How Ridgate, Portobacco, to Governor & Council] December 25

I received yours of the 13 Inst in consequence of which I waited on Mr Reeder to know the quantity of salt he might want this Winter, he informed me about 50 or 60 Bushells which I agreed to let them have on the terms you offer 150 Tob ꝑ Bushell.

[The Petition of Mary Preston Unto His Excellency General Smallwood] December 27 Blue Book No. 4 Letter 19

Humbly Sheweth That your Petitioner's Husband Thomas Preston has been now about three years to the Southward Having left

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your Petitioner with three small Children And no ways provided for, so that we all are in a very distressed & destitute way, Your Excellencies Petitioner therefore Humbly pleads Your Excellency would take her truly deplorable Case into Consideration, And be so Condescending as Sign this Petition To the Governor and Council in behalf of Your Petitioner And her Small Children. Your Excellencys Petitioners husband being now Almost Six Years in the Service, And his poor wife & Children never received any Benefit Your Excellencies Intercession in behalf of your Petitioner will be a singular Act of Charity. And Your Excellencies Petitioner as in Duty bound shall ever Pray.

From the best information that can be obtained, the Facts set forth in this Petition are found to be truly stated, and the Womans distress appears to be very great. She is therefore referred to the Governor and Council that some relief may be extended to her.

W Smallwood
Annapolis 30 Decem^{r} 1781

The Clerk of the County Court is requested to inform the Council what money has been advanced to Mary Preston a soldiers wife

T. Johnson J^{r} Cl Co.
31 Decr 1781

Ann Arundal County ss. I hereby Certify that it does not appear from the minutes of the County aforesaid that Mary Preston has had any allowance from the said County.

Nich Harwood Cl.

December 27

[Chas. Blake to Gov. Lee.]

Y^{rs} of the 14th I this moment Rec^{d} I have no beef here on hand Col^{o} Hollingsworth has order'd all off on the Hoofe I have sent all that could go to him only what was att Mr Paca's which is gone off by y^{r} orders to Annapolis. Col^{o} Hollingsworth desired some to be fed at the Mills, There are a few now feeding which shall be Kill'd as soon as it can be done to advantage; the Brann and Shorts are 10 miles distant and Mr Shepherd informs that his Vessel can neither carry those or any thing else unless in barrels and those I have not. I have two thousand bus: of wheat here that I wish I could gett away. I shall give orders to send Brann and shorts from Wye where it can be done with convenience by putting it with flour barrels when the Vessels arrive

those feeding are so few that it is not worth detaining the Vessel to kill them and they are growing better every day they shall be sent to Annap: when killed

P. S. Mr Richd Tilghman the 4th has Recd a great deal of wheat from me by order of the Special Council, and had it ground at the Head of Chester Mills. I was order'd to deliver what he might call for suppose he has a great deal of flour ready. December 27

[Francis Nichols, Fredericks Town, to His Excy Thos. S. Lee. Esq.] December 27

I have the Honr to inform your Excellency that by the Authority invested in me by the Honourable Robert Morris Esqr superintendent of Finance—as you will see by the following extract of my orders I have appointed Colo Moses Rawlings who I have Contracted with for the supply of this Post—to receive any article—of specific supplies required by the United States from the State of Maryland.

extract—you are hereby authorized and impowered by yourself or such person or persons as you shall appoint for that purpose to receive any articles of specific supplies required by the United States from the State of Maryland for which a Duplicate of the receipt given shall be forwarded to me by yourself or the person by you authorized and such person or persons shall be by you nominated to the Governor of the said State and your his or there said recepts shall be a sufficient Discharge for such supplies as can be applied to the feeding of Prisoners and Guards in that State.

I hope what I have done will meet with your approbation.

[A. F. Cheney, Annapolis, To His Excellency the Governor & the Honourable the Council] December 28 Red Book No. 27 Letter 34 [Indorsed "Referred to Judge Hanson"]

The Remonstrance & memorial of Andrew Francis Cheney on behalf of his son Francis F. Cheney now a prisoner in the Goal of this City.

Your memorialist humbly begs leave to represent to yr Excellency and Honors, the situation of his unfortunate son, who has been lately afflictd with the Hospital Fever, for above nine weeks, & now in an Indispos'd State of Health, resulting from the shocking place of his Durance, where at this Time he has no place free from water, even to put his Bed; & he is himself oblig'd to keep his Feet on a Stone to keep them out of water. This situation your memorialist humbly conceives, must affect the feelings of every tender & humane Breast, let his offence be ever so atrocious, it is a maxim in Law, that no man should be deem'd guilty before he is found so, by his peers.

This being the case, your memorialist is emboldened to apply to the tenderness, humanity & benevolence of your honorable Board, well hoping from the benignity of each of your Hearts, you will

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Letter 34
[Indorsed "Referred to Judge Hanson"]

be so moved by his situation as well as that of his distressed & afflicted Father as to cause him to be removed from the present place of his confinement to any other place whereby he may not become a Sacrifice to the Inclemency of the weather, & where he must if continued submitt to inevitable Fate.

Your memorialist therefore Hopes that your Excellency and Honours will take the premises into consideration & take such order therein as shall seem meet.

December 28

[John Macdonald, Lieut 80th British Regt., Frederick Town, to the Governor and Council.]

By the fortune of War I was taken prisoner under Lord Cornwallis at York in Virginia. I have an Uncle in St. Mary's County, John Somervell by name whom I never saw, but as I have heard my mother often mention him with the utmost tenderness and affection I am very desirous to pay him a visit, could I be so happy Gentlemen, as to obtain your leave & permission for that purpose. If you please to indulge me in this request I shall be very punctual, to return when you order me.

December 29
Red Book
No. 30
Letter 53
[Copy]

[H. Hollingsworth, Head of Elk, to His Excellency, Thos Sim Lee, Esqr, in Council.] (favd Pr Mr. Williams)

And Please your Excellcy & Honours Your favr of the 11th is now before me, I wrote to Mr Calhoun for the Salt and have sent to Philada at the same time (least one of the ways should miscarry) as I have lately received three vessel Loads of Beef from below and expect several more, and am still slaughtering Cattle, I have about one hundred on hand, about forty of which are too poor to kill (which as Forage is rendered very scarce in this neighborhood) I shall sell, am making Sale of Part of the wheat and flour to enable me to go on with the State business, and to close my account for the present year as soon as possible, you mention sending some Red money by Mr Job, as tis uncertain when that Gentleman will return home I'le thank you to send it by Mr Baruch Williams, as I am much in arrears for Forage for the Army, a part of which I am to pay in Red money, and if I am not furnished with it, shall be obliged to pay the hard, as I am fully determined to bring forward all my Accounts against the State as soon as possible, which cant be done without the money, nor would a single person trust me without the fullest promises of punctual payments (which I am now dun'd for ten times a day) and do most earnestly intreat you will enable me to make good, that I may if possible bring the State again into Credit, and settle my Accounts to your and the Honourable Assemblys Satisfaction (and to retire)

P. S. The People are many of them Executed for their Tax while I am indebted to them for Forage and my Certifycates for Forage will not be Reced for Taxes, by either the Sheriff or Commissioners the people are therefore much distressed though they have parted with their property in Expectation of making payment for particulars I refer you to Mr Williams

December 29
Red Book
No. 30
Letter 52

[Geo. P. Keeports, Baltimore, to Gov. Lee.]

December 29
Red Book
No. 30
Letter 53
[Copy]

May It please Your Excelly. I Hithertoo Omitted Acknowledging the Receipt of Your Letter of the 8th Inst. with the Tobacco notes for 54 Hh^ds^ which I Received ꝑ^r^ Mr R. Ridgely since the Receipt of which I have Done the Utmost in my Power to sell them for Cash but Cannot Find a Purchasser. If the Tobacco Could be brought to this Town there is many who would Purchase and It would Command 17/6 to 20/ ꝑ C^t^ which at the Lowest Price is 5/ ꝑ C^t^ more then Can be got for the notes. The Tobacco notes you were pleas'd to Give me on Acco^t^ I have Sold for 12/6 ꝑ C^t^ and no Allowance for the Casks. Yours of the 18th & 19th Inst. I've Likewise Receiv^d^ and In Compliance with the Former have Purchased 20 Ream of Paper for Printing the Laws and sent it to Mr Fred^k^ Green, Fine paper I Could not Purchase without Paying the money Down which I Cou'd not do as Mr Calhoun did not Deliver me the Flour Imediately and Cannot sett a Time when he will Deliver it I am at a Loss how to make Engagements for Pay^t^ In Compliance with your Order of the 19th Inst. have purchased the Blankets Shoes and a Sufficiency of Cloth and Trimings for making 30 Suits Cloaths, Hats I've Likewise so Engaged which will be Done Some Time next week. The Blankets and shoes I shall send Down as soon as I Can get a Conveyance The Cloths I shall give out Imediately and have them made up which with the Hats shall be sent Down Next week

The whole of the purchases I have made Payable at Two and three weeks Credit To Enable me to Comply with my Engagements I Begg Your Excell^cy^ to Furnish me Imediately with Tobacco or Flour to the Am^t^ of £300 or 400£ and Inform me If I may Take 12/6 ꝑ C^t^ for those notes I now have in hand

Baltimore Jan^ry^ 8th 1782

May It Please Your Excell^cy^ I wrote the 29th Ult^o^ and Informed your Excellency of Compleating the Purchass of 30 suits Cloaths &c and of the Terms on which I obtained Credit some of the first Paym^t^ because Due yesterday and I had Pledged myself for the Punctual Payment was obliged to Borrow money to save my Credit I shall be much obliged to your Excell^cy^ to Furnish me Imediately with Tobacco or Flour (Flour will be the Readiest sale) to Enable me to Comply with my Contracts—and Inform me If I may Sell the Tobacco Notes I now have on hand at 12/6 ꝑ^r^ C^t^

[December] [Indorsed, "The permissions granted"]

[The Petition of Harry Dorsey Gough of Baltimore County, To his Excellency The Governor and the Honorable Council of Maryland.]

Your Petitioner is seized and possessed of a considerable real and personal Estate of not less Value than eight thousand pounds Sterling, in the Kingdom of Great Britain that since the Commencement of the present War he hath had no Information or Intercourse with his Agents and Attorneys residing in Great Britain, in whose Case, were left the Receipt of his personal Estate and Collection of his Rents, but they were not vested with any Powers for the Disposal of his real Estate. That your Petitioner altho he has frequently wrote and pressed his Agents for an Account and State of his Affairs, hath not been able to get any Information from them, on the Subject, whereby he is procluded from Laying in his Claim on their property in Maryland, and being reimbursed for his personal Property in their Hands, and as to his real Estate, which constitutes the greatest Part of his Property in Great Britain he is destitute of any remedy for the Recovery of the same, unless your Excellency, and Honors should grant Permission that your Petitioner might send an Agent vested with proper Powers for that Purpose to sell and dispose of his real Property and transmit the Value thereof to America: and in order that a Power of Attorney should be authentically executed, your Petitioner is advised it will be necessary for him as well as the Person appointed to transact this Business should be permitted to go to New York to have the same executed and ratified by such Authority and in such manner as would be sufficient according to the Laws of Great Britain.

Your Petitioner would therefore hope, that as he is attached as well by Principle as Habit to America and would wish to have all his Property in it, that no objection will be made to the present Application for Leave for himself and Agent to go to New York and also for his Agent to go to Great Britain to collect his Estate and remit it to America and on the contrary, if your Petitioner should be denied this Permission, he will run the risque of Loosing his whole Estate in that County.

[1781] Red Book No. 30 Letter 102

[List of Subscribers for the support of the barge Experiment]

Whereas the Enemy have fitted out a Number of small Vessels to ravage & plunder our Farms & Plantations which lie on the Water & have lately plundered many of our Countrymen and burnt & destroyed their Houses threatening the like Destruction wherever they shall be able to effect it with Security—And whereas from the present exhausted State of the public Treasury Government cannot immediately give that Protection to every Individual which is become necessary from the cruel & Savage Mode in which the War is now

carried on against us And whereas a Water Defence is the best & most effective Way of preventing those Surprizes Depredations & Ravages, And Individuals have built & offered Boats for such Purpose. We the Subscribers do agree to support & maintain the Barge Experiment and Boat for two Months & man the same with twenty Men exclusive of necessary Officers The said Boat & Barge to be stationed in the Eastern Bay & to cruize occasionally between Kent Point and the Honble Matthew Tilgham's Island And we agree to pay all Charges & Expences in Proportion to the several Assessments of our Property lying in the Counties where We respectively reside In Witness whereof We have hereunto set our Hands. [1781] Red Book No. 30 Letter 102

Matthew Tilghman	Thos. Tibbets	James Hindman
Wm Paca	Thomas Applegarth	Peregrine Tilghman
Edwd Lloyd	Henry Tibbets	Wm Hemsley
Wm Hindman	Thomas Barrow	[T?] Benson
Robt Goldsborough jun^{r}	John Nesmith	John Dawson
Robt Newcome	James Tilghman	Eliza Hindman
James Barrow	James Hewes	Ann Maxwell
James Earl Denny	William Watts	Harriot Callister
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